

Rover Pipeline, LLC Docket No. PF14-14-000

ROVER PIPELINE PROJECT

69227 North Main Street

Thursday, December 11, 2014

KARA HARRIS, Environmental Project Manager, OEP,

AMANDA MARDINEY, FERC

With: MARK VEDRAL, Senior Manager, Rover Pipeline Project

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MS. HARRIS: So good evening. On behalf of the
3 Federal Emergency Regulatory Commission, I would like to
4 welcome you here tonight. The primary purpose of tonight's
5 meeting is to give you an opportunity to provide comments on
6 the Rover Pipeline Project planned by Rover Pipeline, LLC.

7 I am Kara Harris, and I am an Environmental
8 Project Manager in FERC's Office of Energy Projects. Jim
9 Martin to my immediate left and Amanda Mardiney to my right
10 are also with the FERC. Jennifer Ward to my far left is a
11 Project Manager with Cardno Entrix. Cardno is an
12 environmental consulting firm assisting us in the production
13 of the environmental impact statement, or EIS, that will be
14 prepared for the project.

15 As you can see, this meeting is being recorded by
16 a court reporter so that you can have an accurate record of
17 tonight's comments. A transcript of this meeting will be
18 placed in the public record so that everyone has access to
19 the information discussed here tonight. I will quickly run
20 through tonight's agenda.

21 I will start off by briefly explaining the role
22 of FERC and our application process, then I will have a
23 Rover representative present an overview of their project.
24 Following Rover's presentation, we will then hear from those
25 of you who signed up to speak at the table in the hallway

1 and make formal comments on the project.

2 So a description of FERC. FERC is an independent
3 agency that among other things regulates the interstate
4 transmission of natural gas. We review proposals and
5 authorize construction of interstate natural gas pipelines,
6 storage facilities and liquefied natural gas terminals.

7 As a federal licensing agency, the FERC has a
8 responsibility under the National Environmental Policy Act,
9 or NEPA, to consider the potential environmental impacts
10 associated with the jurisdictional project. With regard to
11 the Rover Pipeline Project, the FERC is the lead Federal
12 Agency for the NEPA review and the preparation of the
13 Environmental Impact Statement.

14 So far, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
15 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
16 and the State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency have
17 agreed to be cooperating agencies and assist FERC in the
18 preparation of the EIS. Additional federal, state and local
19 government agencies with jurisdiction by law or special
20 expertise are welcome to cooperate as well.

21 The Commission is made up of 5 members who are
22 appointed by the president and approved by the Senate. The
23 commission staff, which includes myself, Jim, and Amanda,
24 prepares technical information to assist the commissioners
25 in making their decisions.

1 When a company wants to build pipeline facilities
2 to transport and sell natural gas in interstate commerce,
3 the company files an application with the commission. Rover
4 plans to file their application in the first quarter of 2015
5 and is requesting a Commission Certificate of Public
6 Convenience and Necessity by the end of next year.

7 It is important for everyone to understand that
8 the proposed project is not promoted by and is not conceived
9 by the FERC or our cooperating agencies. The FERC staff
10 reviews applications for the authority to build and operate
11 interstate natural gas pipelines, and Rover is in the
12 process of routing their pipelines and preparing an
13 application to submit to FERC. Once the application is
14 submitted, our obligation is to review that application and
15 prepare an analysis of the environmental impacts.

16 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing; we are
17 not here to debate the proposal or make any determinations.
18 We are here to listen to your concerns so that we can
19 consider them in our analysis of the potential, natural and
20 human environmental impacts of the project and how those
21 impacts might be reduced or avoided. If there are any
22 general objections or support to the project or other
23 non-environmental issues concerning the proposal, those
24 issues will be considered by the Commission in its
25 determination of the project's public convenience and

1 necessity, but are generally considered outside of the scope
2 of our environmental analysis. So in other words, the
3 Commission does want to hear your concerns; they will just
4 not be discussed in detail in our Environmental Impact
5 Statement. During our review of the project, we will
6 assemble information from a variety of sources including the
7 applicant, the public, state and federal agencies and our
8 own independent analysis and field work.

9 So I will briefly describe our environmental
10 review process; we are currently here in the beginning of
11 this process. Rover entered into FERC's prefiling process
12 in June of this year which began our review of the project.
13 The purpose of prefiling is to encourage involvement by all
14 interested stakeholders in a manner that allows for the
15 early identification and resolution of environmental issues.

16 The FERC docket number for the project is
17 PF14-14. The PF means pre-filing and no formal application
18 has been filed at FERC. Once Rover files a formal
19 application, a new docket number will be assigned with a CP
20 docket number designation. The goal of prefiling is to get
21 information from the public as well as agencies and other
22 groups so that we can incorporate all substantive issues of
23 concern into our review.

24 On November 4th of this year, FERC issued a
25 Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact

1 Statement, or NOI, for the Rover pipeline project, and
2 initiated a scoping period or comment period. The NOI was
3 mailed to over 16,000 stakeholders and describes the
4 environmental review process, some already identified
5 environmental issues, and the steps the FERC and the
6 cooperating agencies will take to prepare the EIS.

7 We have set an ending date for December 18, 2014
8 for the scoping period. However, this is not the end of our
9 accepting your comments. We will accept your comments
10 throughout the environmental process, it is just that the
11 earlier we get your comments the better it allows us time to
12 evaluate them. So, again December 18th. is the deadline but
13 we will accept your comments.

14 Extra copies of the NOI and other project
15 handouts are located at the table by the door where you came
16 in. We have a speakers list at the table in the back and
17 we'll use that list tonight to call up speakers to the
18 podium to give your comments on the record. If you wish to
19 speak and have not signed up, you will have an opportunity
20 to put your name on that list.

21 In addition to verbal comments provided tonight,
22 we will also accept your written comments. If you have
23 comments but do not wish to speak, you may provide written
24 comments on the comment forms provided at the back table or
25 your own paper. You can mail them in or give them to us,

1 just be sure to include the Docket No. PF14-14 so that we
2 can ensure we get your comments for this project
3 specifically.

4 Your comments tonight, together with any written
5 comments you have already filed or intend to file will be
6 added to the official record of the proceeding. We will
7 then take all the comments that are addressed Natural and
8 Human Environmental Issues and utilizing all available
9 information and expertise, factor them in to our independent
10 analysis of the project's potential impacts.

11 We will publish those filings in a draft EIS
12 which will then be distributed for a minimum 45-day public
13 comment period. Additional public meetings similar to
14 tonight's meeting will be held where we will get your
15 comments on the project's EIS. At the end of the draft EIS
16 comment period, FERC staff will prepare a final EIS that
17 specifically addresses each comment received on the draft
18 EIS and includes all necessary changes, additions and
19 modifications to conclusions reached in the draft EIS.

20 The final EIS will be considered by the
21 Commission in its determination whether to authorize the
22 project and if so, under what conditions.

23 Currently, our mailing list for the project is
24 over 16,000 stakeholders. If you received a copy of the NOI
25 in the mail, you are already on our mailing list to receive

1 copies of our draft and final EIS. If you would like to
2 correct your name or remove your name from the mailing list,
3 you can respond to the last page of the NOI and let us know
4 whether you want to modify your address or remove it, but
5 keep in mind that because of the size of the mailing list,
6 you will receive a copy of the EIS on a CD-ROM in the mail.

7 So we have asked a Rover representative to
8 provide a brief overview of their project. They are aware
9 that there are people signed up to speak and we want to make
10 sure we get to each person on the list, so Mark Vedral will
11 come up and give a brief overview of the Rover Project.

12 MR. VEDRAL: Good evening, can everybody hear me?
13 My name is Mark Vedral and I am a senior manager for the
14 Rover Pipeline Project. I would like to thank the Federal
15 Energy Regulatory Commission for allowing me to speak to you
16 briefly this evening. I would also like thank the
17 landowners and other members of the community here with us
18 tonight, many of whom have worked with our team on land
19 surveys, invited us to give presentations about the project,
20 and called our project's toll free number with information
21 about the proposed route and questions.

22 It is our intent to live up to our promises of
23 openness, respect and integrity during every step of this
24 process, from permitting and construction through long-term
25 operations. I have four objectives I would like to achieve

1 here in the next few minutes. First is to provide an
2 overview of the Rover Project and Two, explain its purpose
3 and need; Third, explain what you can expect from the Rover
4 Project Team and our commitment to the community; and 4th,
5 to give you a sense of the project timeline.

6 First, project overview. First, about the
7 project. In a filing with the FERC in June requesting FERC
8 to approve our development of the project utilizing the
9 pre-filing process, we proposed the Rover Pipeline, a new
10 interstate pipeline system to transport domestically-
11 produced natural gas from the Marcellus and Utica shale
12 formations to markets in the U.S. and Canada.

13 The Rover Pipeline is being designed to transport
14 3.25 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day through
15 approximately 830 miles of 24-inch, 30-inch, 36-inch and
16 42-inch underground pipeline. Rover is also proposing to
17 build compressor and metering stations along this route in
18 Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

19 Tentatively, the Rover pipeline has plans for
20 four mainline compressor stations and six lateral compressor
21 stations. In our filing, we proposed that nearly all, 80
22 percent of the pipeline run under agricultural land and
23 parallel existing pipelines, power lines and roads. In its
24 4.3 billion dollar investment, Rover Pipeline has committed
25 to utilize union labor resources exclusively to construct a

1 pipeline based upon the large presence of available
2 resources in the region and the union's high quality
3 craftsmanship and past performance for safety, reliability
4 and quality performance.

5 Second: Purpose and need. I would like to make
6 three points on the project's purpose and need. The Rover
7 Pipeline will provide a reliable, long-term supply of clean,
8 natural gas from abundant fields in the Marcellus and Utica
9 shale formations. The first major new interstate of its
10 kind originating from this area and then transporting gas to
11 the West and Canada. Seventy-eight percent of the gas moved
12 through the Rover Pipeline will be used by customers on the
13 U.S. segments of the pipeline including multiple
14 interconnections with third party pipes in Defiance, Ohio to
15 reach customers in the greater Midwest, Michigan and Gulf
16 Coast and multiple takeoff points in Michigan that will
17 interconnect with local distribution systems serving
18 customers throughout the state.

19 What is not consumed in the U.S. will be
20 transported to the Union gas hub in Canada where it will be
21 traded on the open market for consumption, either back in
22 the United States and Michigan and into the Northeast such
23 as New York or New Jersey or to customers in Canada.

24 Two: Right now, there aren't enough pipelines to
25 move gas from production regions to the market. Natural gas

1 production is forecasted to increase by 44 percent by 2040,
2 but not from traditional supply areas. For example,
3 historic supplies from the Gulf of Mexico are down 46
4 percent over the past 5 years. This has left existing pipes
5 under-utilized and in some instances, empty. The new gas
6 that will replace the historic supplies and is mostly going
7 to originate from the Marcellus and Utica, where pipelines
8 such as Rover will carry this abundant new supply to market.
9 The Rover Pipeline will provide a much needed supply source
10 to the region who is dependent on out-of-state production to
11 meet its supply needs.

12 Thirdly, recently we announced that the Rover
13 Pipeline was fully subscribed, demonstrating significant
14 demand. This means that we have received significant
15 interest in long-term use of the Rover Pipeline. We have
16 multiple 15 to 20 year contracts to transport gas through
17 the Rover Pipeline. The Rover Pipeline will provide access
18 to a much-needed new source of natural gas in the United
19 States, continuing to reduce our reliance upon foreign
20 energy sources.

21 Thirdly, what you can expect from the Rover
22 Project Team and our commitment to the community: Our
23 construction and safety commitment. The Rover Pipeline will
24 meet or exceed all required safety systems and be
25 constructed and operated in accordance with all applicable

1 state and federal standards. Construction will include a
2 visual and nondestructive inspection of every well that
3 joins sections of pipe together. The pipeline will be
4 tested with water under higher-than-normal pressure and
5 regulation devices will be installed to prevent pressure
6 from exceeding safe limits. Rover pipeline will have
7 automated valves installed to shut off the flow of gas in
8 case of an emergency. The pipeline will receive regular
9 integrity testing and be monitored 24/7, 365 days a year by
10 a full-time gas control and operating maintenance staff.

11 Pipe coverage for agriculture lands will be four
12 feet or more, non-agricultural lands will be three feet or
13 more and roads, streams, ditches and water bodies will be
14 five feet or more.

15 Permanent and temporary easements: It is Rover's
16 preference to use a mutual contractual agreement with
17 impacted landowners to obtain easements. Easements along
18 the single pipeline route will require a 50-foot wide
19 permanent easement and temporary construction workspace
20 areas of 25 to 100 feet in additional space depending on
21 site-specific conditions. We will work to develop easement
22 agreements that meet landowner's individual needs. We know
23 your land is a valuable natural resource and the care with
24 which we treat land and topsoil is of our utmost priority.

25 Fourth: Project timeline. Following the FERC

1 public scoping meetings, we anticipate filing a FERC
2 certificate application in January of 2015 that will undergo
3 public input and comment. We intend to work closely with
4 FERC to provide any additional data or information and are
5 hopeful that FERC will issue a certificate and then
6 construction authorization in the first quarter of 2016. We
7 would expect that a portion of the pipeline will be
8 operational in December of 2016 and the remainder by June of
9 2017.

10 In conclusion, it is our intent to live up to our
11 promises of openness, respect and integrity during every
12 step of the process, from permitting construction through
13 long-term operations. Please make note again of the project
14 toll-free number for landowner questions, 1-888-844-3718.

15 Again, thank you for the opportunity to be here
16 tonight.

17 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, Mark. Again, after the
18 formal meeting is adjourned, representatives from Rover will
19 be available with their maps in the back for you to look at
20 the map some more and to ask more questions. Just to point
21 out for those of you who just came in, there are seats
22 available in the front of the room on each side if you did
23 want to take a seat.

24 So, I will just clarify really quickly about the
25 Applicant. Rover Pipeline LLC is currently routing their

1 pipelines and locating its above-ground facilities to
2 prepare and file an application with FERC. Rover is
3 responsible for working directly with the landowners,
4 preparing their environmental information and providing the
5 necessary information to ensure a thorough review and
6 analysis by the agencies and public.

7 I also want to clarify the role of the commission
8 versus the commission's environmental staff. The five
9 member Commission is responsible for making a determination
10 on whether to issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and
11 Necessity to Rover. The EIS is prepared by the FERC
12 environmental staff and it does not make that decision. The
13 EIS is used to advise the Commission and disclose to the
14 public the environmental impact of constructing and
15 operating the proposed project if it were approved.

16 The Commission will consider the findings,
17 conclusions and recommendations in the EIS as well as public
18 comments on non-environmental issues including engineering,
19 market need, rates, finances, tariffs and cost in making an
20 informed decision on whether or not to approve the project.
21 Only after taking the environmental and non-environmental
22 factors into consideration will the Commission make its
23 final decision on whether or not to approve the project.

24 So we are now going to move into the part of the
25 meeting where we will hear comments from the other audience

1 members, particularly the affected landowners. As I
2 mentioned before, if you would rather not speak, you may
3 hand in written comments tonight or send them in to the
4 Secretary of the Commission by following the procedures
5 outlined in the NOI and our comment forms. Again, there are
6 copies at that table by the door where you came in.
7 Whether you verbally provide your comments or mail them in
8 they will be equally considered by FERC.

9 So, for the benefit of all in attendance and for
10 accuracy of the transcript, I will set some ground rules
11 just to make sure this business meeting progresses smoothly.
12 We have about 30 people on the mailing list so far and we
13 don't want to set a time limit, but we are going to start
14 with a 5-minute time limit just to make sure we get through
15 all the speakers. That will take about 2 1/2 hours if we
16 stick to five minutes. Again, we don't want to have to set
17 a time limit; it's just we just want to make sure that
18 everyone who did sign up gets a chance to speak.

19 Amanda will call your name to the podium. When
20 your name is called, please step up to the podium and
21 clearly state your name and affiliation if any, and please
22 spell your name is misspelling is likely to make sure the
23 court reporter gets your name accurately documented on
24 record. Please speak directly in the microphone and address
25 your comments to the Panel so that you can be clearly heard

1 by the court reporter, the Panel and the audience. Lastly,
2 as a courtesy to our speakers and the rest of the audience,
3 please turn off or silence your cell phones.

4 MS. MARDINEY: The first speaker is Amanda
5 Sumerix.

6 MS. SUMERIX: Good evening. I would first like
7 to thank the representatives from FERC for holding these
8 meetings and allowing those of us affected by the pipeline
9 to voice our opinion. My name is Amanda Sumerix,
10 S-U-M-E-R-I-X and I am the Director of Communications at the
11 Michigan Forest Products Council. Our organization works to
12 promote, protect and sustain Michigan's vibrant forest
13 industry along with the interest of property owners.
14 Michigan's 19.3 million acres of forest lands supports
15 approximately 150,000 jobs and contributes \$14.6 billion in
16 economic activity.

17 We are here today to voice our support for the
18 proposed Rover Natural Gas Pipeline. We do so because it is
19 a promising opportunity for Michigan landowners, an
20 important boost to our infrastructure, and an investment
21 from a company committed to working with landowners and
22 protecting Michigan's environment and natural resources.
23 Our economy stands to greatly benefit from the immediate
24 hiring of Michigan workers to build the pipeline. Further,
25 our economy will continue to benefit from the state's first

1 access to energy reserves produced within the Marcellus and
2 Utica shale region. As Michigan continues to move away from
3 conventional energy production, natural gas will be a key
4 part of the system that provides Michigan's energy needs.
5 We are also confident that the pipeline will be built to the
6 most stringent environmental standards following guidelines
7 set by this body and other federal regulatory agencies.

8 Furthermore, the training and expertise shown by
9 the workforce selected by energy transfer have shown
10 themselves more than capable of exceeding any environmental
11 and safety concerns.

12 Finally, and probably most relevant to this
13 hearing, we are confident of the Rover Project's ability to
14 do right by Michigan property owners. Many people have
15 voiced concerns over the way they were treated by
16 subsidiaries of Energy Transfer. We understand that Energy
17 Transfer has acknowledged these instances and has taken
18 measures to avoid them in the future.

19 Furthermore, testimony from tonight goes to show
20 that the workforce's commitment to doing the job right. We
21 have been pleased with Energy Transfer Partners' commitment
22 to responsible construction practices, their decision to
23 utilize experienced local labor and construction, and their
24 efforts with landowners to minimize impacts and fully
25 restore impacted land.

1 The company has aimed to limit impacts to
2 conservation land to less than 3 percent of the pipeline
3 route is just one example of their good-faith efforts to
4 protect Michigan lands. Our organization is eager to see
5 this project get underway, and encourages FERC to move the
6 project forward in a timely manner. From employment to
7 manufacturing and to clean and plentiful energy production
8 too, the Rover Pipeline will positively impact Michigan well
9 into the future.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. MARDINEY: The next speaker is Bill Black.

12 MR. BLACK: Good evening. I would like to thank
13 the Commission for this opportunity to speak here tonight.
14 My name is Bill Black, B-L-A-C-K and I am the Legislative
15 Director for the Michigan Teamsters.

16 The United States is currently in the midst of a
17 massive energy surge that is providing the nation with
18 domestic, affordable and clean natural gas. In turn, this
19 surge is delivering a manufacturing renaissance for much of
20 the country. Michigan's economic recovery has an
21 opportunity to be a part of this historic comeback. But in
22 order to make this happen, we need to build out an
23 infrastructure that will deliver this energy to residential,
24 commercial and industrial customers. The Rover Pipeline
25 will deliver three billion cubic feet of clean, natural gas

1 supplies each day from Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

2 The State of Michigan, because of its relatively
3 high energy consumption, is the ninth largest consumer of
4 natural gas in the nation. Rover would provide an important
5 and affordable new supply of natural gas for energy-
6 intensive industries such as automotive, glass, metal
7 casting, chemical industries, pulp, paper and many others.

8 If working families in Michigan are going to
9 fully benefit from the U.S. energy boom, we need to get more
10 of that energy to our state, and Rover will help bring that
11 to our doorsteps. And in the short term, building Rover
12 will provide 10,000 construction jobs with some one billion
13 dollars paid to workers and contractors in the state. Most
14 important, the work will be done by skilled, experienced
15 union contractors that employ local Michigan workers.
16 Energy Transfer is committed to doing this work in
17 accordance to the highest safety and quality standards,
18 ensuring natural gas will be brought in by skilled and
19 qualified Michiganders.

20 You may not know it, but Michigan has more
21 underground natural gas storage capacity, 1.1 trillion cubic
22 feet, than any other state in the nation. The reason you
23 don't hear much about this is because Michigan's existing
24 natural gas infrastructure is because it is so interwoven
25 into our daily lives, operating safely and efficiently, day

1 in and day out.

2 Energy is the lifeblood of the Michigan economy
3 and the Rover Pipeline will inject new life into our
4 economy. The State labor organizations, the people who
5 helped build the state, are ready to get to work on this
6 important project now. I appreciate your time this
7 evening and urge you to move quickly in approving this
8 project. Thank you very much.

9 MS. MARDINEY: Thank you. Next speaker is Bill
10 Winn.

11 MR. WINN: Good evening. I am Supervisor of
12 Berlin Township. My name is Bill Winn, W-I-N-N. I am here
13 to inform you guys, if you already don't know, we have three
14 pipelines in our township already. We would appreciate it
15 if they could find another route and you know, put it in a
16 different location or, if that is not possible, then follow
17 the pipelines that we've got. For some reason they are
18 wandering all over the place and I am not really sure why.

19 If you do approve it, we have a lot of tiled
20 ground in our farmland. We would like to have the farmer be
21 able to pick his own tiler. If you are going to hire a tile
22 company that maybe is not so good I am not so sure, so we
23 would like that. That is all I have to say. Thank you.

24 AMANDA: The next speaker is Dwight Tacie.

25 MR. TACIE: My name is Dwight Tacie. I represent

1 the Burville Lyons Club. We hold events where we have mud
2 bogs, heavy tractors, monster trucks. We have a lot of
3 vibration on the field. At any one point when we have these
4 events, there can be over 1,000 people on that field. This
5 pipeline is running down our property line and it is not
6 very far from where we have these trucks staged, we park
7 semis in that area. We have a playground, we have four
8 baseball fields and when we have these events everything is
9 in operation. We want to know if we are going to be able to
10 run our events and what effect will we have on that
11 pipeline? How much danger is involved with the public?
12 That is all I have got to say.

13 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14 MS. MARDINEY: Thank you. Next speaker is Sandra
15 Hamilton-Tilly.

16 MS. HAMILTON-TILLY: Good evening. That is
17 spelled S-A-N-D-R-A H-A-M-I-L-T-O-N hyphen T-I-L-L-Y. I
18 had an opportunity to speak to representatives from FERC in
19 Chelsea, and at that time I discussed the tactics of Rover,
20 what they were using with the landowners. I spoke about the
21 forceful nature, the scare tactics and using eminent domain.
22 Tonight, though, I would like to address the concerns I have
23 with FERC's handling of the comments and filings on the
24 website as well as the overall environmental review process.

25 After the Chelsea scoping meeting, on FERC's

1 website it was noted that Rover Union members were listed as
2 the first participants, and that is not true. That evening
3 many of the landowners spoke first and then at the end the
4 audience was bombarded by the union representatives. I am
5 just questioning the way that it was reported on the FERC
6 website.

7 Secondly, I wonder why the union members are
8 allowed to send mass comments that are marked as individual
9 comments to the FERC website. There is no mention of the
10 necessity of the pipeline, other than it would create jobs.
11 There is no mention of the impact on the environment.

12 Thirdly, in Chelsea I was surprised to hear that
13 the union members were allowed to speak because their
14 comments had nothing to do about the environment but rather
15 the economic impact on their lives. As a union member
16 myself, I understand the importance of a union and I
17 certainly understand and sympathize with them needing jobs
18 and to support their family. I am not against unions, but
19 the public and landowners need to know that this economic
20 impact is short-termed. Yes, it may employ 3,000 people.
21 My question is are those 3,000 people Michigan residents?
22 Or have they only been here six months?

23 In your Notice of Intent to Prepare the
24 Environmental Impact Statement, the first paragraph, last
25 sentence reads: The Commission will use this Environmental

1 Impact Statement in its decision-making process to determine
2 whether the project is in the public convenience and
3 necessity. I would like to know, as I am sure others, what
4 does that word 'public convenience' mean?

5 Further, since the introduction of this project
6 to the public, the pipeline has moved three times in the
7 area that my family has their property, in Washtenaw County.
8 Just this week, unofficially, we heard that it is going to
9 perhaps move a fourth time. My concern here is with all
10 this moving and with the time deadline coming and
11 approaching fast -- and I heard tonight you are going to
12 extend that deadline of December 18th, but how are these
13 people going to have their concerns met?

14 They are getting on board late, as my family did
15 because we were not allowed to attend the open houses
16 because I guess the pipeline had moved from its original
17 state. So we missed all the open houses in July. I would
18 like to see FERC if possible put out information at the
19 earliest stages of the project, perhaps during the gas-line
20 open houses. There may have been a representative in
21 Chelsea, I don't know. I wasn't privileged to that meeting.

22 It would be good if people were aware of how you
23 file a comment on FERC. Had I not attended the meeting in
24 Dexter and a gentleman from another county gave a
25 presentation on how to do the filing and what was necessary,

1 I would have been clueless as to how to go about this
2 process. So I feel there is definitely a lack of
3 communication and knowledge. Why are township supervisors
4 notified later in the project? Why aren't they notified
5 right early on so that there can township meetings and that
6 the individual pipeline people come to the meetings on a
7 local basis.

8 So much of this adversarial environment could
9 have been avoided had there been smaller, a little more
10 personal groups. Also, if the supervisors would have had
11 township maps to know what residents are going to be
12 involved it would have been helpful because I know there are
13 some landowners that aren't opposed to the project. That is
14 fine, put them on board; but let the other people have a
15 voice.

16 I do appreciate that in looking at your intent
17 for your environmental filing that you did notice the
18 purpose and need for the project, the impacts of clearing
19 forested areas and other vegetation, the impact on water
20 resources, sensitive springs, groundwater, wetlands, the
21 impact on land using agricultural land and drainage systems,
22 the use of eminent domain, the impact on property values and
23 recreational resources, impact from construction noise,
24 pipeline integrity, public safety, alternatives and
25 cumulative impacts.

1 My concern is that this list itself already
2 speaks volumes for not approving the project. We already
3 have five pipelines now between Michigan and Ontario. DTE
4 is already planning their own Nexus Pipeline to serve
5 Michigan and Ontario. Today our government should be
6 focusing on ways for improving and using renewable energy.
7 We are headed in the wrong direction. If our government
8 okays this additional pipeline such as Rover Pipeline, which
9 is bigger and poses more risk, it would be very detrimental.
10 In the year 2020, California estimates that one-fourth of
11 their energy will be strictly renewable through the use of
12 solar panels, biofuels from plant algae and the wind, we
13 should be headed in the renewable direction. We should not
14 be destroying our land and infringing on individual freedoms
15 for large corporations and short-term profit.

16 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

17 (Applause)

18 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker is Gary Wolfram.

19 MR. WOLFRAM: Hi. I would also like to say I
20 appreciate you having these hearings for people to speak for
21 and against this, or medium with this pipeline issue. My
22 name is Gary Wolfram W-O-L-F-R-A-M.

23 The Rover Pipeline is important for both Michigan
24 and the United States. The use of horizontal drilling has
25 made the U.S. the largest producer of natural gas in the

1 world with only Russia producing within 25 percent of what
2 we do produce. The U.S. Energy Information Agency is
3 estimating that the U.S. production is going to increase by
4 44 percent by 2040. An infrastructure is needed to
5 transport natural gas. The Michigan House Subcommittee on
6 Natural Gas in April 2012 concluded that quote, "New gas
7 pipelines would be needed in Michigan to receive larger
8 volumes of natural gas so as to not bottleneck flow and to
9 minimize pipeline transportation costs."

10 This will become even more necessary if the
11 recent agreement with China for the United States to reduce
12 its greenhouse gases 26 percent below the 2005 emissions
13 within the next ten years is ratified. Natural gas produces
14 about half the amount of CO2 emissions per million BTU of
15 energy as coal, and this means there is going to be a
16 greater increased demand for natural gas to replace coal.

17 Combined-cycle natural gas power-plants yield
18 heat efficiencies of 60 percent or more compared with
19 nuclear at 35 percent and coal at 40 percent. This is all
20 particularly important in Michigan, as currently about 55
21 percent of all our electricity generation comes from coal.
22 There will likely be over time a movement away from
23 coal-fired power-plants to natural gas, and this will be a
24 substantial increase in the demand for natural gas. It is
25 also possible that natural gas vehicles may become

1 economically viable, which will result in demand for
2 refueling stations that may reach critical mass.

3 As the pipeline is going to last for decades,
4 development of this infrastructure will allow for incentives
5 to create new ways to use of natural gas, further reducing
6 energy cost and adding to economic activity. Pipelines are
7 the safest way to transport natural gas, and currently,
8 there are over 300,000 miles of natural gas pipelines in the
9 United States.

10 Natural gas is used in a variety of ways. It is
11 an essential fuel and raw material in many manufactured
12 products. About 98 percent of manufactured goods require
13 some natural gas in the manufacturing process. It is used
14 for heating, cooling, waste treatment and processing and as
15 a raw material in the manufacturing of chemicals, plastics,
16 fertilizers, pharmaceuticals and other products.

17 As an example of the benefit of this, a plastics
18 producer would get a double benefit; they would have cheaper
19 feed stock gas, which is the raw material for their product
20 and lower electricity costs. The Rover Pipeline will allow
21 for the efficient transportation of natural gas throughout
22 the Midwest and Canada and in particular Michigan; and as
23 with any product, its efficient use, an economy depends on
24 the ability to transport it. It has got to be moved from
25 areas where it is produced to the areas where it is going to

1 be consumed. The interstate highway system was an example
2 of attempts to do this and has been quite successful in
3 reducing transportation costs of goods and services
4 throughout the country. Years ago, natural gas was flared
5 at the well heads because there was no way to get it to
6 market.

7 The Rover Pipeline will be an investment of over
8 4 billion dollars and create approximately 10,000 temporary
9 construction jobs which about 3,000 of these would be in
10 Michigan. These workers then would generate economic
11 activity as well by buying things in restaurants, heating,
12 renting spaces to live, entertainment, etc. The pipeline
13 would produce a right-of-way payment to landholders and
14 generate tax revenues for the State of Michigan and for
15 local units of government.

16 In summary, the Rover Pipeline will be a
17 significant factor in improving Michigan's economy and
18 environment.

19 Thank you.

20 AUDIENCE: I'm sorry, sir. Who is it you are
21 affiliated with?

22 MR. WOLFRAM: I am an economist and I have a
23 consulting firm named Hiltop Housinger.

24 AUDIENCE: Do you live in Michigan?

25 MS. HARRIS: Excuse me, would you not speak out?

1 MR. WOLFRAM: Yeah, it took me three hours to
2 drive here.

3 AUDIENCE: Then why did you come?

4 MS. HARRIS: Could you not speak out? If you do
5 want to speak would you please sign up on the speakers list
6 so we can get to the next person on the list and make sure
7 people who did sign up do have their opportunity. Thank
8 you.

9 AUDIENCE: Excuse me, I have a procedural
10 question. That gentleman was at the Flint meeting last
11 night. Why is he here again talking? He doesn't live here.
12 What's he got to do with the environment?

13 MS. HARRIS: This is an open forum where we are
14 giving everyone an opportunity to comment. FERC did come
15 all of this way to hear from every single one of you who
16 signed up to speak, so please just give the speakers the
17 opportunity to speak and respect their opinion. It is not
18 necessarily a vote of whether you agree or not. We just
19 want to hear everyone's comments and get them in the record.
20 Thank you.

21 MS. MARDINEY: The next speaker is Brigham
22 McCown.

23 MR. MCCOWN: Good Evening. My name is Brigham
24 McCown, M-C Capitol C-O-W-N. I spoke last night as well and
25 I wasn't going to speak tonight but now I am. I have

1 decided to. I am from Ohio, not Michigan; but I did have
2 enough common sense to marry a gal from Grand Rapids.

3 So if I may start, good evening. I just plan on
4 submitting my formal comments which I will do at the end of
5 my oral statement, which I left back on my chair, but I will
6 give them to you. After speaking to some before we got
7 here, I decided the record needed to be corrected.

8 I am often asked to comment on new infrastructure
9 projects and my response is that we need to support these
10 new projects. Why? Because continued investment in
11 state-of-the-art infrastructure is necessary to support our
12 economy and our way of life. Whether it is roads, bridges
13 or pipelines, we all count upon the safe and efficient
14 movement of goods, services and even ourselves from point A
15 to B. We cannot heat our homes, we can't provide the fuel
16 necessary to create electricity or fuel our cars and trucks
17 without.

18 Pipelines aren't any different than any other
19 form of transportation, although they are largely buried and
20 out of sight. Pipelines are very much our underground
21 energy highways. How do I know this? Because pipelines and
22 energy transportation are crucial to the economy each and
23 every day. As some of you know, I served as the first head
24 of the federal government's Pipeline and Hazardous Material
25 Safety Administration.

1 That is the agency in Washington, D.C. that is
2 responsible for ensuring the safety of our nation's 2.6
3 million miles of pipeline as well as 1.5 million daily
4 shipments of hazmat by air, truck, sea and rail. The energy
5 commodities overseen by PHMSA amount to two-thirds of all
6 the energy products we consume on a daily basis.

7 Speaking of pipeline infrastructure, I have heard
8 safety concerns. I have heard from landowners who simply do
9 not want it in their backyard and I have also heard from
10 some who say we have to be green. Even the rosier energy
11 projections state that renewables will not be capable of
12 providing the majority of our energy needs until some time
13 well after 2040. Natural gas is an important bridge fuel.
14 It works well with renewables and is the preferred choice
15 for electric generation.

16 Most people understand the pipelines are not only
17 required, they are the safest method for moving large
18 amounts of natural gas. Our country is a great nation and
19 we have been successful because we dare to do and build
20 things. At a 99.999952 percent safety rating, no other
21 transportation method is as safe or superior.

22 I want to point out the members, the Liona
23 members that are present today. It troubles me frankly,
24 when people refer to their jobs as temporary. I served as a
25 military officer but perhaps my job was temporary also. Our

1 country needs as many shovel-ready jobs as possible and
2 these are not temporary jobs. These brave men and woman
3 work construction projects as their way of life.

4 Lower energy prices directly translate into more
5 money in our pockets at the end of every day, and that fact
6 can be seen clearly in the price at the fuel pump. That
7 money grows our economy, expands our tax base and provides
8 the resources necessary to continue investment in renewables
9 and emerging technology. Without new infrastructure our
10 goods and services have a harder time getting to market,
11 they cost more but frankly, that is what some desire.

12 Make no mistake that failure to invest in new
13 infrastructure not only costs us all money, it means we have
14 to rely on older and less efficient infrastructure. Newer
15 pipelines include state-of the art technology and controls,
16 they use more stronger and flexible steel and offer the
17 highest levels of safety possible. Safely transporting
18 energy to market knows no political ideology, and our
19 current transportation safety record is unparalleled in this
20 world. Have there been accidents? Yes. People talk about
21 Marshall Michigan. We have to learn from those accidents,
22 improve the regulations and move forward. This pipeline is
23 not an average pipeline. It is not a crude oil pipeline.
24 It is a natural gas pipeline.

25 I want to say that the failure to invest in new

1 infrastructure is actually more impactful. It makes us less
2 safe, undermines the environment and robs us all of our
3 productivity, time and money. Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. CARTER: Thank you.

6 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker is Bruno Walter.

7 MR. WALTER: Good evening. I just want to make a
8 comment that the previous speaker had a farm in Columbus
9 Township and our township is full of pipeline corridors.
10 But I know one of those corridors goes to the same place,
11 St. Clair. The pipeline goes into Canada, where this
12 proposed pipeline will go, but they choose a different route
13 and I can't see why they can't stay on the existing pipeline
14 corridors and use those for the pipeline. Thank you very
15 much.

16 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

17 (Applause)

18 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker is Mark Wilson.

19 MR. WILSON: Good evening. My name is Mark
20 Wilson and I am the president of Land Stewards. Land
21 Stewards will be a consultant to Rover Pipeline. We will
22 provide services designed to repair the drain tile and
23 conservation practices which over time will begin the
24 processes of restoring that land to its long-term
25 productivity.

1 Land Stewards is a multi-disciplinary consulting
2 group that specializes in caring for the land in a manner in
3 which it ensures longterm productivity. Each member of our
4 team cares passionately about the land. We hear the
5 landowners tonight, we understand their concerns and we take
6 them very seriously. We understand soil degradation. We
7 understand soil permeability, air-water exchange, the need
8 for biomass and reestablishment of soil structure, and
9 because of that we have included in our team soil
10 scientists, agronomists, agricultural engineers and
11 conservation planners; and most importantly our team members
12 include local drainage contractors who are familiar with
13 agricultural drainage, familiar with soils in this area and
14 most importantly they know how to work with farmers. In
15 fact, many of these guys are already doing work in this
16 area.

17 My point is we have the knowledge, the skills and
18 the expertise to restore the drainage tile systems and
19 conservation practices that will be disrupted by this
20 pipeline. And yes, Rover will be paying us, but the reality
21 is we will be working for the landowner. We will be an
22 advocate for the land. Our mission is simple. It is
23 complicated but simple and that is to do what is right for
24 the long-term productivity of the land.

25 Quite frankly, when we were first approached by

1 the Rover Pipeline about taking on this assignment, we were
2 hesitant. We knew the scale and scope and the importance of
3 such a mission, and then as we thought about it we realized
4 who knows the soil better than we do? No one. Who knows
5 agricultural drainage better than our guys who do it for a
6 living professionally? No one. Then we ask ourselves, if
7 we don't do it, who will? If not us, who?

8 So we have put together a coalition of
9 individuals who will undertake and support the mission.
10 This is our home too. Our reputations are on the line and
11 we are not going home when the pipeline crews go home. We
12 will continue to live here, do business here and these
13 landowners will continue to see us. Our reputation is
14 important to us.

15 In summary, by working together, by establishing
16 open and honest communication and perhaps most importantly
17 by building trust, we will be able to begin the process of
18 identifying and protecting and restoring the drain tile
19 systems and conservation practices which in turn will, over
20 time, begin the process of restoring the long-term
21 productivity of the land. Thank you.

22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23 MS: MARDINEY: Next speaker is Eileen Iesch.

24 MS. TESCH: Good evening. My name is Eileen
25 Tesch T-E-S-C-H. I just wanted to express some conclusions

1 that we have made on behalf of the private landowners on the
2 St. Clair River and the Rover Pipeline crossing site as
3 presently proposed. We are very concerned regarding the
4 safety, economic, social, cultural and environmental
5 effects. In fact we think it is a virtual timebomb.

6 Rather, we believe that Rover's blatant attempt
7 to use this particular easement or create this easement on
8 the river is their most expedient and easiest crossing
9 route, while avoiding other more accommodating and existing
10 sites that may involve difficult negotiations with the
11 competitors or the private utility entities that currently
12 exist.

13 An attempt by Rover personnel to secure a new and
14 less expensive river crossing site on this private property
15 under the guise of the eminent domain, this tactic would
16 alleviate Rover having to negotiate with other pipeline
17 competitors and public utilities who own available
18 rights-of-way and easements within a half-mile north and
19 south of the presently proposed private property. There are
20 other available river-crossing routes not associated with
21 private property as presently proposed by Rover.

22 I also want to just highlight a couple of the
23 comments made by Representative Candace Miller and her
24 concerns for the proposed pipeline. And she says
25 particularly that her concerns are the impact it is going to

1 have on the community. Not that we are against the
2 pipeline, but just that there are many outstanding questions
3 that need to be answered and I know that is why we are here.
4 Particularly, will this pipeline be constructed on existing
5 easements and how it will minimize the adverse impact to
6 landowners who will be impacted by the construction and the
7 eventual loss and use of their property. Perhaps most
8 importantly, what steps Rover is taking to ensure the safety
9 of the residents who live in the vicinity where this
10 pipeline will ultimately be placed. She urges that these
11 questions are thoroughly explored and answered by FERC
12 before the application is approved. Thank you.

13 (Applause)

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker is Dave Miotke.

16 MR. MIOTKE: I will yield to Audrey.

17 MS. MARDINEY: Just state your name for the
18 record.

19 MS. MIOTKE: My name is Audrey Miotke,
20 M-I-O-T-K-E and I happen to live directly next door to where
21 the proposed pipe will be located; and north of us is
22 William Haener -- his name is H-A-E-N-E-R -- and if this
23 pipeline goes in it will be 40 feet from our bedroom, north
24 of us and south of us, so the property that they want to put
25 it on is only 75 feet wide so you can see how that will

1 really affect our home.

2 If this does go in, we are very concerned about
3 it. Besides the concerns for our safety on a daily basis,
4 the potential hazard to our home and family and other
5 consequences of the project. There are homes up and down
6 the river that will be affected by this and we are concerned
7 about our property value also.

8 In addition, currently, the University of
9 Michigan and Michigan State University have a spawning reef
10 under construction right in front of where this proposed
11 pipeline is going. This project has been under federal
12 funding and University of Michigan and Michigan DNR, and the
13 cost of this project has been over a million dollars and it
14 has just started just shortly; so if the pipeline goes
15 through will this affect what they have done in this
16 spawning? So, we are also very concerned about that.

17 As Ms. Tesch has said, there are other, you know
18 we don't have a problem with them coming through, it is just
19 to come through a residential area we have that concern, but
20 there are alternatives for routing this project. And there
21 are existing energy corridors approximately one mile north
22 and one mile south of our location. The location to the
23 north, adjacent to Puttygut Road, currently houses some high
24 voltage transmission lines and numerous pipelines that cross
25 the river from Michigan to Canada with approximately 300

1 feet of riverfront way. The location to the south of us is
2 DTE, and so that would also be a possibility that they could
3 do that. So we would certainly like them to look at
4 alternative crossings and not go through a residential area.
5 Thank you.

6 (Applause)

7 MS. HARRIS: We encourage you, if you know
8 specific routes that you prefer FERC to look into and also
9 to get Rover to look into, please file them in the record.
10 If you can give us road locations if you don't have a map,
11 even tonight we did take down some details. If you want to
12 go to the back table on your way out. That is for everyone.
13 If you know an alternative, you live here, and when we are
14 looking at this route we don't necessarily know what you are
15 thinking and what your concerns. So letting us know that
16 while we are evaluating will help us greatly. So please
17 take the time after the meeting to make sure we get those
18 specific details down and we can look into that.

19 MS. MOTKE: Or we can send it?

20 MS. HARRIS: Yes.

21 MS, MARDINEY: The next speaker is Robert Farley.

22 MR. FARLEY: My name is Robert Farley and I am a
23 landowner in Almont Township. I am not a paid consultant to
24 E.T. Rover or a professional speaker like many of the other
25 people we have heard from this evening, so my comments are

1 from the standpoint of a landowner and a citizen of
2 Michigan.

3 The stated purpose of the proposed pipeline is to
4 transport natural gas, being produced by means of
5 hydro-fracking in the Marcellus region of West Virginia.
6 The proposed pipeline will transport unrefined natural gas
7 through several uupper Midwest states to a processing
8 facility in Ontario, Canada.

9 The environmental consequences of hidrofracking
10 are unknown, but concerns have been raised that the quantity
11 of toxic chemicals injected deep into the ground and the use
12 of massive quantities of fresh water needed to perform
13 hydrofracking have the potential to significantly damage the
14 freshwater aquifers needed for agriculture and domestic
15 consumption. I am opposed to continued hydro-fracking
16 operations until such time that unbiased scientific study
17 confirms the complete safety of these practices.

18 Furthermore, according to a New York Times
19 article published January 28, 2012, the estimated quantity
20 of natural gas available for extraction in the Marcellus
21 region has been greatly reduced as reported by the U.S.
22 Energy Information Administration. In January of 2012, the
23 estimates available indicated that a six-year supply of gas
24 was available from the Marcellus shales. Considering the
25 proposed pipeline is not scheduled for completion until

1 2017, it would appear that the resources planned for this
2 pipeline may be nearly exhausted before the line is in
3 service.

4 The existence of the proposed pipeline would
5 encourage the spread of hydro-fracking operations outside of
6 the Marcellus region when those supplies are exhausted, or
7 possibly before. Extending such reckless operations in the
8 environmentally unique and priceless Great Lakes Region
9 would be short-sighted and foolhardy. Continuing to seize
10 private land, imperil fragile environments and ecosystems
11 and invest vast financial resources to perpetuate dependency
12 on a finite, environmentally destructive energy source does
13 not appear to be in the interest of the citizens or the
14 nation.

15 The proposed routing of the Rover Pipeline will
16 disrupt forest and land with mature stands of trees
17 throughout much of the currently planned route. The stated
18 need for a 100-foot wide construction easement would destroy
19 thousands of acres of forest and other vegetation. In areas
20 of mature forest, the trees destroyed cannot be replaced and
21 would take generations to regrow a similar forest.

22 The permanent easement will prevent reforestation
23 of the land thus disrupting it. On my own property, the
24 originally proposed pipeline route would destroy scores of
25 mature white oak and maple trees, many in excess of

1 36-inches and caliper ans 80-feet in height. Michigan State
2 University Campus Construction Standards placed the value of
3 \$30,000 to \$40,000 apiece for trees of this size. It is
4 unlikely that individual landowners will be compensated
5 fairly for this loss of property, nor will the citizens at
6 large be compensated for the degradation of the natural
7 environment resulting from this type of destruction.

8 The proposed route through Lapeer County in
9 Southeast Michigan crosses many wetland areas. On my own
10 property, the proposed line would destroy wetland, encroach
11 on the unique Linwood Muck Agricultural soils that lie
12 within the drainage area in the flood plain of Bell River.
13 In Almont Township, the residences located in agricultural
14 property immediately south of Bell River are considered
15 well-sensitive properties. My own well was difficult to
16 establish and required a sig investment in treatment
17 equipment to produce an adequate domestic water supply.

18 Clean water aquifers are difficult to locate and
19 tap due to the heavy clay soils extending uninterrupted to
20 bedrock levels. Wells extending into the bedrock are
21 obtainable but often produce sediment-contaminated water
22 and/or saltwater brine that is useless. The type of heavy
23 equipment and soil disturbance necessary to construct the
24 proposed line will potentially damage established private
25 wells, rendering them useless.

1 Personal experience with the existing pipeline
2 construction and easements has revealed that soil
3 productivity on agricultural land has been reduced for
4 decades. The compaction of soils, disturbance of topsoil
5 and unnatural responses to freeze/thaw cycles directly over
6 the buried pipelines all appear to negatively impact the
7 agricultural productivity of the soil.

8 I strongly object to the practice of granting the
9 power of eminent domain to private corporations for use in
10 seizing private land for for-profit organizations.

11 (Applause)

12 Thank you. To justify the logic supporting the
13 concept of eminent domain assumes that national public need
14 can supersede private property rights. The proposed Rover
15 Pipeline will transport unrefined natural gas to Canada. It
16 is difficult to identify any benefit from this project to
17 the affected landowners and the citizens of the United
18 States, considering the gas in the line between Shiawassee
19 County, Michigan and Ontario, Canada will not be distributed
20 for use anywhere in the U.S.

21 It would appear that the covert motive of E.T.
22 Rover is to establish a conduit for the exportation of
23 natural gas surplus supplying foreign markets for profits,
24 exceeding what can be obtained in domestic markets with the
25 current depressed natural gas prices. Furthermore, I have

1 repeatedly asked E.T. Rover why the proposed construction
2 would not occur entirely within the existing TransCanada gas
3 pipeline easement that diagonally crosses Lapeer County and
4 extends to the same location in Canada as the proposed new
5 line.

6 I have been told that TransCanada 'will not
7 permit' another pipeline within their easement. I fail to
8 understand why the power of eminent domain would apply to my
9 private property but would not be used to compel TransCanada
10 to accept lines within their easement, especially --

11 (Applause)

12 -- considering the easement that TransCanada owns does not
13 confer ownership of that private land. The practice of
14 continually carving up private land for the benefit of large
15 corporations is not consistent with the fundamental
16 principles of private property and of individual sovereignty
17 guaranteed by the Constitution.

18 Granting power of eminent domain to E.T. Rover
19 effectively nullifies any legal rights to private landowners
20 to control the use and development of their own property.
21 In my own case, my property has been enrolled for more than
22 40 years in the State of Michigan's Farmlands and Open Space
23 Preservation Act. Granting a private, for-profit
24 corporation the legal power to use my property for
25 commercial and industrial uses contrary to my wishes is

1 entirely inconsistent with the intent of the preservation
2 program; it would squander the investment of the State of
3 Michigan and the taxpayers protecting these properties.

4 The originally proposed route of the Rover
5 Pipeline through my property will bisect an open meadow that
6 was the location of the Bell Harbor Settlement in the 1840s.
7 The original settlement was founded and the utopian
8 community near the banks of the Bell River by Reverend Shaw.
9 Many of the original settlers are buried in nearby Webster
10 Cemetery.

11 I have established a landscape art project on the
12 site of the Bell Harbor community using new landscape
13 planting in conjunction with mature trees that appear to
14 have been planted by the original settlers. In the early
15 1950's my great, great-grandfather purchased my property
16 after the failure of the original, abandonment of the
17 original Bell Harbor Settlement. My land has been
18 continuously owned by members of my family for more than 160
19 years. The proposed construction will disrupt the integrity
20 of this registered cenntennial farm, potentially destroying
21 cultural significance to the Bell Harbor site that has yet
22 to be fully examined and documented, as well as destroying
23 my landscape art installation.

24 Many citizens and local community government
25 officials have expressed concern over the safety of the

1 proposed pipeline. The extremely high pressure and large
2 size proposed, one of the largest that would exist in the
3 United States if constructed, create safety concerns for
4 many residents living near such installations.

5 Ironically, there were multiple natural gas line
6 leaks and failures, have occurred at the same time that E.T.
7 Rover was surveying property in Southeast Michigan. Once
8 such leak and explosion and fire occurred in Prudhome,
9 Saskatchewan on October 11, 2014 which burned out of control
10 for almost a week. Residents had to be evacuated from their
11 homes.

12 In September 2014, a natural gas pipeline leak in
13 Berrien County, Michigan resulted in the evaluation of 500
14 residents, contamination of agricultural crops,
15 establishment of roadblocks, disruption of community
16 services. government expense and endangerment of private
17 citizens' life and property. Michigan residents and
18 government are still dealing with the consequences of the
19 Enbridge Pipeline leak in the Kalamazoo River in July of
20 2010. These are only three recent examples.

21 A simple search of the internet reveals an
22 extensive list of pipeline accidents in the U.S. just within
23 the last 15 years, emphasizing the unpredictable and erratic
24 safety record of all energy pipelines. It has been noted by
25 several sources that the proposed pipeline extending across

1 unsecured, rural, private land presents a threat to national
2 homeland security, an opportunity for terrorists to actually
3 use a simple, improvised explosive device to create massive
4 devastation. The increased danger caused by the proposed
5 construction is very real and the compensation to citizens
6 in the affected areas is not adequate to protect them from
7 this threat.

8 One of the many vague assertions made by E.T.
9 Rover in planning the project involves the benefit to local
10 economies. E.T. Rover has stated tonight and other times
11 that local jobs will be created by this project. Having
12 seen firsthand the economic effects an existing pipeline
13 corridor on my property, I can attest that no local
14 employment has resulted in the decades that there lines have
15 been in existence.

16 It is interesting to note that the survey
17 operations undertaken by E.T. Rover in southeast Michigan
18 has utilized out-of-state survey companies and workers. A
19 crew of more than 30 individuals surveyed my property on
20 October 18. The crew arrived in more than 12 vehicles, not
21 one of which was licensed in Michigan and not one of the
22 workers was a Michigan resident. This example demonstrates
23 the insincerity of E.T. Rover in providing accurate
24 information or protecting the interests of the citizens.

25 If the FERC determines there is a need for

1 additional pipeline construction within the U.S. to serve
2 the Marcellus region, then I must strongly urge
3 consideration of less disruptive alternatives, not
4 represented by the Rover Pipeline Project. At the very
5 least, new pipeline construction should be limited, whenever
6 possible to be located entirely within existing utility
7 easements. This use of existing easements would minimize
8 the impact on private property and ecosystems as the land
9 within these easements has already been compromised by
10 existing utility construction.

11 Consideration should also be given to modifying
12 existing practices to allow construction of such pipelines
13 within interstate freeway rights-of-way. These freeway
14 rights-of-way are already owned by the citizens and use of
15 land within these rights-of-way and would eliminate further
16 encroaching on the property of private citizens.

17 I would also urge the FERC to give due
18 consideration to competing pipeline proposals that would
19 utilize portions of existing lines to serve the same
20 Marcellus region and would thereby greatly reduce the amount
21 of new construction necessary. This use of existing
22 infrastructure would obviously result in less
23 construction-related disruption of private land and
24 environmental damage.

25 In representing the federal government, I believe

1 the FERC has a duty to consider the needs of the nation and
2 the rights and well-being of individual citizens. Use of
3 the questionable and finite resource in the Marcellus region
4 and the environmentally reckless practice of hydro-fracking
5 do not represent a long-term sustainable energy policy for
6 the nation. The Rover pipeline is not planned to cross
7 Lapeer County, Michigan until after mid-August of this year,
8 as this has been noted by other speakers tonight that the
9 proposed line's route has changed several times in the
10 months that we have been aware of it.

11 E.T. Rover has never clearly stated why the
12 earlier proposed route through Oakland County, Michigan was
13 abandoned and why the current proposal is preferable.

14 Since the relocation of the proposed route, E.T.
15 Rover has pressured local landowners very aggressively to
16 permit surveys to the extent of issuing written
17 correspondence via certified mail threatening legal action
18 if permission is not granted. This was done with no prior
19 notification of local government officials and the very
20 vague information offered at public meeting and via
21 robo-printed corporate propaganda.

22 In Lapeer County, Michigan, the private citizen
23 government opposition to the proposed project is widespread
24 but unequivocal. Resolutions proposing the proposed project
25 have been passed by the Lapeer County Board of

1 Commissioners, Lapeer Township, Belmont Township, Imlay City
2 Township, Berling Township, Hadley Township and Lapeer
3 County Road Commission just to name a few local examples.
4 Similar opposition has been filed by government bodies in
5 other Michigan Counties and the Sierra Club. The response
6 of private landowners and citizens has been similarly
7 widespread and unequivocally opposed to the proposed
8 project.

9 Michigan's Congresswoman Candace Miller has also
10 recorded her opposition to the Rover pipeline project as
11 currently proposed.

12 In consideration of the current widespread
13 opposition, the concerns for the cumulative, negative impact
14 on agriculture, safety and the environment and property
15 values, I urge the FERC to deny permission to E.T. Rover for
16 the proposed construction. At the very least, I request
17 that any decision to proceed be delayed until January of
18 2018, giving the State of Michigan, local government and
19 private citizens time to gather facts, review alternatives
20 and give adequate time for citizens to organize and
21 represent their needs and concerns in dealing with the
22 aggressive plans of a large corporation for financial and
23 legal powers greatly in excess of any private citizens.

24 If any approval is ultimately granted, I request
25 the power of eminent domain be removed from such approval so

1 that the private citizen's property rights are not
2 effectively eliminated. Thank you.

3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 MS: MARDINEY: The next speaker is Anne
6 Sousanis.

7 MS. SOUSANIS: My name is Anne Sousanis,
8 S-O-U-S-A-N-I-S. I am from Lapeer County and I appreciate
9 the chance to speak, helping to formulate an environmental
10 impact statement tonight. I appreciate the different
11 categories that were listed in the booklet that I received.
12 As far as the need for the project, in 2012 the Energy
13 Transfer Company made a request to the FERC to abandon its
14 Trunkline Gas Pipeline through Michigan and convert it to
15 oil because the additional gas capacity wasn't needed.

16 As far -- and I am skipping around trying to
17 follow some of the points that you had in your booklet. As
18 far as impact on water resources, Lapeer County -- and I am
19 from Lapeer County, if I didn't say that already -- Lapeer
20 County has 20,000 acres of wetlands, three rivers and four
21 or five watersheds depending on who is doing the figuring;
22 and along with that, with the impact on watersheds according
23 to MSU extension freshwater muscles, which live in these
24 rivers, are one of the most endangered groups of animals in
25 North America. The Bell River, which is in Lapeer County

1 and would be impacted by the pipeline, the Bell River has
2 one of the most diverse mussel populations in Michigan and
3 has several known locations of rare and threatened species.

4 Also, along with that information on watersheds,
5 the Flint River Watershed is home to the Metamora Hadley
6 recreation area, Ortonville State recreation area and
7 Sutherland Nature Center. Not only with the pipeline
8 disrupt these public lands, but in some areas it goes
9 through officially-designated wetlands on private property
10 that technically cannot be disturbed, but there it is.

11 Continuing a little bit with threatened and
12 endangered species, Lapeer County's natural areas provide or
13 are adjacent to critical habitat for a variety of plant and
14 animal species including many endangered, threatened and
15 special concern species -- and these are all listed with the
16 Michigan Natural Features Inventory of the different
17 counties in the state including Lapeer County.

18 As far as impacts of clearing forested land in
19 areas where pipeline construction has cut paths through
20 forest, there is concern about forest fragmentation, loss of
21 biodiversity and invasion of invasive species. For example,
22 Penn State University has done a study of the impact on
23 forest-dwelling songbirds. Their study raises concerns
24 about the impact on certain migratory species including the
25 hooded warbler, which I happen to be personally fond of, and

1 it is a special concern species in Michigan. So this was a
2 study that came out of Penn State, but we are still talking
3 about many of the birds we have here as well as numerous
4 plants and animals.

5 As far as the impact on soil, Penn State
6 University did research on the impact of pipelines. Soil
7 compaction from the siting of pipelines and other natural
8 gas activities significantly reduced the soil productivity,
9 possibly for decades. Also, replacing topsoil and subsoil
10 correctly is a problem. Also, the soil over the pipelines
11 at least from this study tends to dry out quicker because of
12 heat from the gas flowing through the pipeline, stressing
13 the crops quicker in dry periods.

14 Going along with the impact on agricultural
15 lands, regarding the September gas-line rupture in Berrien
16 County on the other side of the state -- and this was just
17 mentioned by the previous speaker -- a farmer in the area
18 was advised by the company that owns the pipeline that his
19 three acres of potatoes might be contaminated and should not
20 be harvested.

21 Now in Lapeer County, agriculture is a very
22 important part of our economy. There was an article in the
23 County Press back in September that noted that agriculture
24 is Lapeer County's number one contributor to the overall
25 economy, with more than 1,000 active farms and hundreds of

1 residents involved in agriculture business. Pipeline
2 construction will disrupt existing cropland with possible
3 impacts on soil quality, drainage patterns. and could result
4 in the loss of arable land.

5 I know one of the topics that were in your
6 pamphlet had to do with the impact on property values. Many
7 of us, at least from Lapeer County, have heard the story of
8 a resident who has a home in Northern Michigan that he has
9 been unable to sell and the property value is down next to
10 nothing due to its proximity to a gas well and a
11 high-pressure pipeline.

12 One of the things that I didn't see in the book
13 but it is important has to do with the impact on roads.
14 Many county roads, at least in Lapeer County, have dirt or
15 gravel surfaces. In September, when E.T. Rover had its open
16 house in Lapeer County, I asked about the truck traffic for
17 this project. I didn't receive any answer, but the volume
18 of trucks on rural roads, the hours of operation, the wear
19 and tear on roads, the dust and the noise level are
20 additional areas of concern.

21 As far as the pipeline integrity and public
22 safety -- and this has been brought up already -- this
23 project specifies a 42-inch high-pressure pipeline to carry
24 3.25 billion cubic feet of raw, natural gas per day; and it
25 is my understanding that in the event of a rupture a leak,

1 the minimum area effected would be an approximately
2 1000-foot radius in any direction, and this is in the path
3 of homes, farms and farmland. Some residents, as I believe
4 has already been mentioned, had three pipelines running
5 through their property. This is not only a safety issue but
6 additional burden on police, fire and EMS facilities.

7 Then, going back to the pipeline rupture in
8 Berrien County, which caused 500 residents within a 100-mile
9 radius of the leak to leave their homes. Also, I read an
10 article from the Pittsburgh Tribune Review: an investigation
11 found that state and federal regulators employ far too few
12 inspectors, about 500 total to cover the country's 1.3
13 million miles of mains that distribute natural gas directly
14 to customers. Nearly 500,000 leaks were reported on those
15 lines last year.

16 Finally, the last point having to do with this
17 natural gas coming from fracking operations in Pennsylvania,
18 West Virginia and Ohio. We talked about, it has been
19 mentioned some of the concerns and the potential hazards
20 from fracking operations.

21 The other end of the fracking operation are the
22 injection wells, where the permanently-contaminated water
23 has to be placed theoretically forever. Pennsylvania, it is
24 my understanding, has only five injection wells, which are
25 insufficient to store the millions of gallons of permanently

1 contaminated wastewater from fracking operations. Much of
2 this now is being sent to Ohio and there has been
3 speculation that Michigan could become the next site for
4 injection wells for contaminated water from other states.

5 High-volume fracking and injection wells pose
6 many serious issues including contaminated groundwater and
7 well water from the chemicals used in fracking, the use and
8 taking of millions of gallons of fresh water per well, the
9 strain on the community's resources with the rapid influx of
10 hundreds of out-of-state workers and the leakage of
11 contaminated wastewater from injection wells into
12 groundwater.

13 So in conclusion, this is a very serious issue.
14 I applaud that you have to get all the information that you
15 can get and I am willing to continue looking for more
16 information to help further make this a clearer process; but
17 I am very concerned about it. Thank you.

18 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 MS: MARDINEY: The next speaker is A.E. Mead.

21 MR. MEAD: My name is Alan Mead. M-E-A-D first
22 name is Alan, A-L-A-N. I received a phone call yesterday
23 from a representative from the Laborer's Local 1191. They
24 asked me if I would come to just attend. When I saw the
25 opportunity to speak, I do have some very strong opinions

1 and thoughts about natural gas as compared to other fuels.
2 So I felt compelled to say what I think about it. I am not
3 a professional public speaker. I am a member of that local
4 union, but I just joined recently because I had to take an
5 early retirement from the carpenter's Local 687 because of
6 the collapse of the economy.

7 I am a private consultant contractor. I also
8 study economics. There are many factors that have impacted
9 our environment in our country. Starting in '71, OPEC was
10 put together by the offer of Richard Nixon to provide
11 military support to Saudi Arabia. You've seen what happens
12 with oil, dependency on oil is the catch phrase that
13 everyone is aware of and everyone uses.

14 The thing that concerns me is having worked on
15 many infrastructure projects, including the Fermi Nuclear
16 Plants, Marathon Oil, Rouge Steel Complex Towers and many
17 other construction projects, I have seen that the important
18 thing we need to consider is what direction is the country
19 headed? What can we do to improve in any way possible the
20 capability of the country to support itself and not be so
21 dependent on foreign energy. Foreign energy is a tool at
22 times; it can be used for our good or against us.

23 Natural gas and the delivery of it is so
24 important to the United States. It is the cleanest fuel
25 there is, second only to hydrogen, but we do not produce

1 hydrogen. Maybe that is in the future. The only pollution
2 produced by hydrogen is water vapor. Natural gas is clean.
3 There is some pollution involved but not to the degree of
4 the coal burners I have worked on. I have worked on the
5 ones in Duralt. I worked on the ones in St. Clair.

6 Sulfur dioxide, even though it is regulated and
7 controlled, DTE, Detroit Edison, still has emissions that at
8 times exceed the state regulations. There is a lawsuit by
9 the Sierra Club in regard to those excess emissions. I
10 personally have asthma. I can tell when DTE is exceeding
11 those emissions. I live in Oakland County, Detroit, so we
12 receive the air from the east, from St. Clair. We also
13 receive the air when it blows north from Monroe.

14 So until hydrogen gas is pure fuel that could be
15 used, the cleanest fuel is natural gas. The capacity to
16 deliver in any way possible is what's necessary. It is true
17 that peoples' lives can be impacted by the course that this
18 pipeline takes. That is for you to decide, the Panel to
19 decide, and hopefully the right decisions will be made.

20 You know, in the United States they call
21 Michigan, especially southeast Michigan, it has a nickname.
22 It is called "cancer alley." Why is that? Sulfur dioxide
23 has a lot to do with it. Burning oil has a lot to do with
24 it. All types of pollution and the fact that many
25 industrial workers are exposed to these things has quite a

1 bit to do with it.

2 But one speaker mentioned that, are short-term
3 benefits are what we are looking at here, and the words
4 public convenience were mentioned. We are going in the
5 wrong direction. The only thing that can be done to improve
6 the delivery of a cleaner fossil fuel is necessary. In the
7 future, if they abandon natural gas and fracking procedures
8 or development, maybe there is something that would be used
9 that could be cleaner than that. At least we will have the
10 infrastructure to support it.

11 The infrastructure situation is serious; bridges
12 are crumbling. Southfield Freeway, pieces of concrete fall
13 right off. I-94, same thing. So the total infrastructure
14 needs to be continually maintained, rebuilt and improved,
15 and having the capacity to, or maybe the excess capacity to
16 deliver natural gas I think is the best thing for the
17 country.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

20 MS: MARDINEY: The next speaker is Dan Husted.

21 MR. HUSTED: Good evening. My name is Dan Husted,
22 H-U-S-T-E-D. I am Business Manager of Laborers Local 1075
23 out of Flint.

24 Should this pipeline go through, it will go
25 through four of the counties I represent, being Shiawassee,

1 Genesee, Lapeer and St. Clair County, where I represent 600
2 members that live along that area and would greatly -- for
3 those that think construction is a part-time job for our
4 members it is a career. It is how they raise their family,
5 it is how they send their kids to school, it is how they get
6 their health care.

7 So we are very enthusiastic supporters of
8 modernizing our existing pipeline infrastructure. My union
9 members have been safely building pipelines for more than a
10 century. We build pipelines in virtually every state, and
11 in just the last year my union members helped more than 100
12 pipeline operators and other trades build and maintain
13 projects. Each year, my unit trains about 150,000 workers
14 and invests \$100 in million training workers. We have more
15 than 70 fixed and mobile training centers which offer
16 accredited, hands-on training and certifications including
17 164 hours of pipeline-specific and construction, and three
18 of those are in Michigan, one in Wayne County, one in Perry,
19 and one in the UP.

20 Safety is the cornerstone of our training. We
21 are committed to keeping workers and communities safe and we
22 advocate for policies that do that. We fight for
23 contractors, use skilled workers and whenever possible,
24 local workers so that the communities where pipelines are
25 built benefit the most. We encourage local officials and

1 regulatory agencies to take into account the impact the
2 pipeline project has on the workforce by requiring
3 disclosure of training requirements and their commitment to
4 hiring a diverse force of local residents. We have built
5 many pipelines throughout Michigan, and it would be nice for
6 members that I represent to actually have a project that is
7 in their backyard as opposed to traveling to another state
8 or a project that is 3-4 hours away to go to work so I am
9 here hoping that this pipeline goes through to help my
10 members out. Thank you.

11 (Applause)

12 MS. HARRIS: Thank you for your comments so far,
13 I would just like to remind everyone of the five-minute
14 limit. We have about 16 more people signed up on the
15 speakers list and if you multiply that by 5, it's about an
16 hour and a half so just remind you of the 5-minute limit to
17 make sure we do get to the rest of the people on the list.
18 Thank you.

19 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker is Lynn Coleman.

20 MR. COLEMAN: I just want to thank you for your
21 comments tonight. My name is Lynn Coleman, C-O-L-E-M-A-N,
22 and I am the Training Director from Michigan Labors Training
23 and Apprenticeship Institute. Mr. Husted just talked about
24 our three locations; the city of Wayne, Cary and Iron
25 Mountain. We are an affiliate training for Laborers

1 International Union of North America. We cover the training
2 in the State of Michigan for labor union members.

3 With the labor union members that we have here,
4 Dan mentioned a little bit about that so I am going to
5 eliminate quite a bit of my talking points so we don't want
6 have to hear that again. The training that we do will not
7 only trains them to take care of their covered task in their
8 job-specific categories. It also train them in safety,
9 efficiency and also teaches them to respect the land and the
10 community in which they're working, as if it was their own.

11 Our members who live in the Great State of
12 Michigan, like everyone in this room, and we want to protect
13 it and we want to take care of it. First of all, we want to
14 return home to a safe home and we want the community when we
15 are leaving work to do the same.

16 Every day there are things transported by rail
17 and highway across the state. No one has any idea what is
18 going past their neighborhoods by rail or by highway.
19 Natural gas pipelines are far less hazardous, as the
20 gentleman earlier stated; I believe he said 99.999 and some
21 other numbers, you know. safety factor. And that can be
22 found in the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety
23 Administration site.

24 I just wanted to get up here to let you know and
25 be rest assured as well as the community members, that

1 between the Labors International Union of North America and
2 members here in the State of Michigan and our other Union
3 brothers and sisters, the other trades that are represented
4 here in the room, everything that we do is going to be with
5 the utmost respect for the property, with the safest and
6 most efficient workforce available. And with that every
7 member that comes in here, as we said, is from the State of
8 Michigan. Other trades that were here and spoke tonight
9 about they are here and they have got members in the state.
10 The Teamsters spoke earlier.

11 Everyone has a stake in this game. Nobody wants
12 to see coal plants, nobody wants to see nuclear plants. We
13 have an obligation to the state and to our local ecosystems
14 to reduce carbon footprint. I believe this is the best way
15 that we can reduce that carbon footprint.

16 Thank you and have a good night.

17 (Applause)

18 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

19 MS. MARDINEY: The next speaker is Mark Pulice.

20 MR. PULICE: Good evening. Thank you for
21 allowing me to speak. My name is Mark Pulice, P-U-L-I-C-E.
22 I am a LIOMA number 35 years with Neighbors Local 1191. I
23 have worked in the construction industry my entire working
24 life.

25 A lot has been said about this pipeline before;

1 they are important jobs for us. I guess to some of the
2 residents here, on a personal note I will leave it short.
3 My current residence, where my wife and I raised our twins
4 and now where my granddaughter plays directly abuts a
5 Consumers Energy gas pipeline. My granddaughter's swing set
6 is right in the middle of a pipeline. We have never felt
7 threatened or been put in harm's way. There has been some
8 repair work, the crews were respectful and our property is
9 restored to mine and our neighbors' satisfaction. With
10 that, I will leave with that.

11 (Applause)

12 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker is Tom Hutchinson.

13 (No response.)

14 MS. MARDINEY: Mark Ellis.

15 MR. ELLIS: Hi, my name is Mark Ellis and I am
16 living in Richmond 54 years. I am a small business owner,
17 self-employed, and the biggest thing I have learned is you
18 have to look into the future. This is not only good for the
19 community, but it is good for the state of Michigan, the
20 United States of America and the whole world, actually. I
21 really cannot see a problem with use having a large natural
22 gas pipeline coming through. I mean even if we don't need
23 it for forty years.

24 Unfortunately I don't have any kids so I don't
25 really have to worry about the future, but it is something

1 that we should address especially with the E.T. Rover
2 Company, they are going to pay for everything and they are
3 not asking for any out-of-pocket expenses or nothing, it's
4 going to come through. I own a piece of property up north
5 where they put in not E.T. Rover, but Natural Gas Pipeline
6 put it in and you can't even tell that it's there.

7 I think it is awesome. We need it. That way we
8 are self-sufficient or whatever. Like I said before, it is
9 not a question of if, but when and lastly I just want to,
10 actually there are a couple of things. A lot of people
11 don't know this but I'm glad they put this forum on because
12 if you study the law, the Michigan Zoning and Enabling Act
13 says you cannot regulate nor can you control the drilling
14 operation or the construction of an oil or gas line, period.

15 So it is what it is. There is an old saying too,
16 a lot of people, I like this one, NIMBY. You know, a lot of
17 people agree that we have to have it but 'not in my
18 backyard.'

19 What they are doing is legal and I think -- I
20 had just written down a lot of stuff, you know I have no
21 teleprompter, but if you don't like the laws just do like
22 everybody else does; get out and vote and change it if you
23 don't like it. But beware, because exactly an Executive
24 Order could derail everything. So that is just the way it
25 is. That is all I have to say.

1 I approve the gas pipeline and I think it is good
2 for the State, the United States and the world. It is a
3 commodity so it is good. Thanks for your time.

4 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

5 (Applause)

6 MS. MARDINEY: Thank you. The next speaker is
7 Douglas Prewitt.

8 MR. PREWITT: Good evening. My name is Douglas
9 Prewitt, P-R-E-W-I-T-T. I own a small parcel here in McComb
10 County, ten acres; and my back four acres currently has a
11 pipeline on it. There has been a lot of talk tonight about
12 using the existing pipeline there and the existing easement.
13 It is my understanding that this new line will actually be
14 right outside my back door, probably about 200 feet or 150
15 feet out my back door. My original intent was when I bought
16 this house is to build a barn and to have horses. My
17 understanding is I am not going to be able to build a barn
18 anywhere in the back and you know that's the reason I bought
19 this place so I am quickly running out of land here with all
20 the pipelines running through it.

21 I think using the existing easement that they
22 have would really be beneficial and I know it would be in my
23 case, and in this case here if it does the land where they
24 got it proposed, my 10-acre farm is going to be down to
25 about 4 acres that I can use. If you can help me with that,

1 that would be much appreciated.

2 You know the other thing that -- I've got two gas
3 lines running through the property but you can't get gas
4 down our road. I have to buy propane, which is very
5 expensive, I was told. I should have did my homework. I
6 was told that the camp line was going to be right down my
7 road and it's not. So I am running out of land quick and I
8 get no benefit from it. That is all I have.

9 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

10 (Applause)

11 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker is Kathryn
12 Keyes-Foster.

13 (No response.)

14 Move on then to Pat Acciavatti.

15 MR. ACCIAVATTI: Thanks for the opportunity to
16 address you tonight. I've installed pipeline for 50 years
17 of my life. Let it be known that I am not a union member,
18 never have been. I see a lot of my old adversaries here
19 tonight which I didn't recognize. They never could convince
20 me to join.

21 But I support this pipeline construction simply
22 because it is good for the economy of Michigan and the
23 United States and basically all of us, which makes it good
24 for my children and my grandchildren. I just live down the
25 road here, eight or nine miles. Last year they put a

1 30-inch pipeline through my property so now I have three. I
2 would like to let the landowners know that I have 78 acres
3 there, two natural water courses; the Pine River and
4 Patalona Creek with more than a 50-foot differential in
5 elevation crossing the Pine River.

6 They installed the pipeline very careful of
7 erosion control, save the topsoil. They were responsible,
8 responsive to problems; dust, noise, even moving my mailbox
9 when I requested it. The restoration was done properly and
10 I see nothing but benefit for the majority of people
11 involved, for the state of Michigan and for the United
12 States. I urge you to approve this pipeline.

13 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14 (Applause)

15 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker Dave Naeyaert.

16 MR. NAEYAERT: Thank you. Dave Naeyaert, spelled
17 N-A-E-Y-A-E-R-T. I am a farmer in Western St. Clair County,
18 Berlin Township. Presently I have three pipelines belonging
19 to several different companies and presently I don't even
20 know who they are a part of, but I would like to take you
21 back a few years, a lot of years to my grandparents' day in
22 Belgium.

23 They were tenant farmers. The landowners
24 essentially could run over what they wanted to do on your
25 land. If they damaged crops, "too bad, cry about it." So

1 as a lot of people did from Europe, they came to this
2 country where they were able to secure land and believed
3 they had land rights.

4 Obviously, with some laws that were put into
5 effect by perhaps some well-minded individuals, these have
6 been altered and kind of changed. I would like to relate
7 now to the particulars of my land. The route with the three
8 pipelines, it would be nice if there were a fourth pipeline
9 to put it adjacent to those. Unfortunately, they decided to
10 put a new route, across new land and in this case they are
11 crossing farmland that is very sensitive because of the
12 nature of it.

13 There is a mucky soil that in certain conditions
14 most of the year, if you try to separate the two soils it is
15 just about impossible, and that comes from farming
16 experiences; because they generally blend in the same and
17 until you get these separated you can say what you want to.
18 I have heard assurances from personnel from Rover that they
19 are going to attend that. We heard a gentleman talk here
20 today about it, that they do this with utmost care, that
21 they are experienced; and it seems that the people who are
22 at the most well-dressed seem to say, in unison -- but
23 generally speaking they don't have the land. Of course
24 they'd like somebody else to take the results from their
25 work.

1 I find that, my experience has been that when you
2 comment to the people of a pipeline company they will say to
3 you 'yes, yes, yes'; and in relating to the story my dad
4 told me almost sixty years ago when he went for a
5 pre-induction physical, there was a young man there who had
6 a nice hairdo and the barber asked him how he would like it
7 cut. And he described it to him, and he promptly took the
8 shaver and went right down the middle.

9 So, my experience has been with the pipeline
10 companies, they may give you all kinds of platitudes and
11 good wishes but they do what they want. Right now, with the
12 three pipelines, I have a hill running across my field where
13 the pipeline goes. There is drainage issues, they broke off
14 the natural drain. Tiling couldn't probably be done across
15 there. Back to this other property that is the sensitive
16 soils, I have talked with the soil conservation service and
17 they don't know right what to do because in the previous
18 area I can't farm that land. Potentially I have three acres
19 I won't be able to work. I still pay taxes on it, but I
20 won't be able to use it.

21 So inasmuch as everything is supposed to be
22 glowing by all these union people and all these economists
23 and everybody else going "Oh, this is great for the country"
24 I say "Bah humbug."

25 (Applause)

1 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

2 MS. MARDINEY: Thank you. The next speaker is
3 Mark Lauwers.

4 MR. LAUWERS: I would like to thank you for
5 making the trip and listening to everybody's concerns. I am
6 a farmer, a landowner, a tenant farmer in St. Clair and
7 Lapeer County. And I guess there have been a lot of good
8 points tonight and I don't need to rehash all those things,
9 but a couple of things kind of stood out to me.

10 I believe there are three different pipelines
11 potentially to do this same job. I look at it as a job to
12 move natural gas from Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia up
13 to Michigan/Canada and if there are three different ones
14 bidding on it or three different ones trying to do the job,
15 approving all three of them or maybe two of them would seem
16 foolish because it would be like "I've got three private
17 companies that want to build a toll road across the
18 country"; and if you give all three of them in a domain and
19 let him go at it, all three will go, they will do it. They
20 will wreck a lot of natural resources and they will all go
21 broke.

22 So I would strongly consider how much you need to
23 transfer and how many companies will get the permission. I
24 understand Rover needs to build about 800 miles and the
25 other companies need to build somewhere in the range of

1 200-400 miles to do the same job.

2 Another point, I am not very smart but I do have
3 a degree in engineering. The gentleman from Rover said that
4 78 percent of the gas would be used in the United States.
5 My fluid dynamics would ask then why is the largest pipe
6 going to Canada?

7 (Applause)

8 Rover is proud of 80 percent of the pipeline
9 being in agricultural land and I have concerns about that
10 because I spend most of my life trying to feed this country
11 and most of the world. A lot of people spoke about demand
12 for fuel in the future and I agree; but at the same time the
13 world's population is going to grow about more than a
14 billion people and we can't keep destroying farmland.
15 Farmland is an important natural resource, we are
16 environmentalists, we work to take care of it. I appreciate
17 land steward sincerity, but you can't put it back the way
18 you found it. It is impossible. I mean, tile lines are
19 going to settle, the drainage systems are not going to be as
20 efficient as they were. It is just a fact.

21 We really need to follow the existing pipelines.
22 They do seem to veer off at times for strange reasons so I
23 would strongly encourage to stay in the original easement
24 next to the three lines that currently cross both counties.
25 Thank you.

1 (Applause)

2

3 MS. MARDINEY: Our next speaker is Nathan Fisher.

4 MR. FISHER: Hi, my name is Nathan Fisher. I own
5 property across the street from one of the easements that
6 you guys are planning on following over by the Puddygut
7 Compressor Station. I am actually a UA welder so I have
8 worked on many compressor stations and pipelines in my
9 career so far.

10 I do agree with most people here who say that the
11 pipeline should follow most of the easements that are
12 already established, and that this does bring a lot of work
13 to many of us employees that do construction, and it does
14 bring money to our economy here in Michigan and that I would
15 just like to say I approve for the pipeline to come through
16 to help provide for my family. Thank you.

17 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

18 (Applause)

19 MS. MARDINEY: The next speaker is Gary

20 Detheridge. MR. DETHERIDGE: Good evening.

21 Gary Detheridge, D-E-T-H-E-R-I-D-G-E, Hadley Township,
22 Lapeer County.

23 Our biggest concern with this proposed pipeline
24 is granting Rover a Certificate of Public Necessity and
25 Convenience where there is no necessity and it is only

1 convenient to them. As a country, the U.S. keeps on saying
2 we need to be energy independent. Last year, the US
3 imported 2.785 trillion cubic feet of natural gas from
4 Canada. Why would we build a pipeline exporting our natural
5 resources when we should be using it here at home? Rover
6 should be building a pipeline that supplies American cities
7 rather than going to Canada.

8 Rover states that the majority of the gas being
9 transported will stay in the US only 18 percent will be used
10 in Michigan. If this is true, then why is the pipe running
11 through the last six counties of Michigan after the final
12 drop off point, still a massive 42-inch, 1400 PSI line?
13 These six counties will get no benefit from this line other
14 than hardship and devastation of their properties.

15 Canadian consumers are importing less gas from
16 the US than in 2012. Year-to-date as of July, was at 4.6
17 percent lower than the same time last year. This appears to
18 reverse a trend of significant natural gas import growth in
19 recent years. Particularly through southern Ontario, which
20 is exactly where Rover is headed.

21 Land use: Rover states that they maximize use of
22 existing utility corridors. According to their own draft
23 resource report of the 209 miles proposed in Michigan, only
24 4.1 miles will be on open land. They describe open land as
25 utility right-of-ways, open fields, vacant land, herbaceous

1 and scrub shrub uplands, non-forested lands, emergent and
2 scrub shrub wetlands, golf courses and municipal land.

3 I don't think that 4.1 miles of 209 miles is
4 maximizing the use of existing utility corridors. We
5 requested, and has our township and county, that they use
6 existing ITC corridor that is a half a mile north of the
7 proposed route. Elba Township, who only has four affected
8 properties has even asked that the ITC corridor be used,
9 which would then run the pipeline the entire length of Elba
10 Township. Rover point blank has told our county
11 commissioners that they are not interested and will not use
12 this right-of-way; they want their own easement. Rover is
13 asking for properties that are not theirs and should be made
14 to use easements that are already existing.

15 Existing ITC corridors are already clear-cut and
16 would be a straight line across most of Lapeer County.
17 Using the proposed route would entail cutting down large
18 heavily wooded and forested areas. The proposed route looks
19 like a 7-year-old with a crayon tried to play
20 connect-the-dots with the wooded areas along the row. In
21 Rover's draft research report, 34 percent of the route in
22 Lapeer County would be forested, wooded land. This is
23 absolutely unacceptable. Using our alternative route, there
24 would be less environmental impact, fewer bends and turns in
25 the route, which would mean less welds, less resistance in

1 the pipe and a decreased chance of a leak.

2 Please decline their certificate if not for the
3 entire project, at least through the last six counties in
4 Michigan going to Canada. Thank you very much.

5 (Applause)

6 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

7 MS. MARDINEY: Next speaker is James T. Weiner.

8 MR. WEINER: Hello. I am James T. Weiner and the
9 current President of the Southeast Michigan Land
10 Conservancy.

11 At mile 136 and 137 of the proposed route, E.T.
12 Rover plans on going directly through a 540-acre nature
13 preserve. We have gone through some steps to try to
14 minimize. That nature preserve contains unique natural
15 features that are unique to the area, to Southeast Michigan;
16 it contains about 200 acres of wetlands, tow lakes, 150 to
17 200 acres of upland hardwood. They would affect maybe 25-30
18 acres of the 540, but the original route that was planned
19 was going through a unique, natural glacial moraine that was
20 unique to the area and it was original; it hasn't been
21 disturbed.

22 We are going to try and minimize it, we have
23 allowed E.T. Rover to get onto the property, but the
24 property is protected by a conservation easement. There is
25 no way they can do that, go through that without, and we

1 cannot grab them permission to go through our property. It
2 will require a court order and condemnation. We will fight.

3 The biggest question right now I have, again like
4 this previous speaker and again with what has happened
5 before is what is happening in these last six counties. The
6 last portion of the property or rather, the planned
7 pipeline. In 2012 -- which was finalized in 2013, E.T.
8 Rover abandoned a pipeline directly through the area that I
9 understand it goes to Marysville.

10 They could have repurposed that line for this
11 project, especially if only 18 percent of the gas or 20
12 percent of the gas is going to what-do-you-call-it.
13 Instead, they filed a certificate that the property and that
14 the pipeline was not necessary and that goes right to their
15 filing. They said it was not necessary less than a year
16 ago. They let it go through. What changed? What changed,
17 that is my big question. What changed in a year in terms of
18 the natural gas markets? I don't understand.

19 Under Michigan law -- and I understand this is
20 federal law -- there would have to be a significant finding,
21 that something significant changed in the markets, in the
22 necessity. I am sure this pipeline has been under
23 development for many years. These pipelines, these routes
24 do not just come out of thin air. I am assuming they have
25 been planning it for well over a year, if not several years.

1 Why now do they apply to FERC for a certificate of necessity
2 when just a year ago they said that the pipeline wasn't
3 necessary, and it wouldn't be reasonably necessary in the
4 future.

5 Now I find out that the Vector pipeline, which is
6 another pipeline planned to go through the area, that will
7 be in existing rights-of-way and it follows essentially the
8 same route out to Marysville. My question is this last six
9 acres. Why? Because it will not supply any gas to Michigan
10 from -- that is my understanding anyway. From the
11 Shiawassee metering station on, so there is a significant
12 issue, why? Why is it necessary? Especially with the
13 Vector Pipeline goes through which I do understand is going
14 through existing right-of-way.

15 Again, there are substantial questions in my mind
16 about necessity and then there is the impact on Lost Lake.
17 Originally, back in September when I went to a public
18 meeting, representatives of E.T. Rover said, "Do you have a
19 conservation easement on your property? We won't go through
20 it, we will change the route." A month and a half later,
21 they hadn't done it. We phoned them and they said they
22 looked; 'We can't reroute it.'

23 However, they had already rerouted, they had
24 already rerouted it from Central Oakland County up to
25 Northern Oakland County where Lost Lake is. So they already

1 rerouted it. There are alternatives to the route, and I
2 really think that the EIS, the Environmental Impact
3 Statement, must evaluate the original route that they
4 proposed and this route and the impacts; and it must very,
5 vary carefully look at the necessity of the project,
6 especially in light of the other pipelines that are being
7 planned to go through that are on existing rights of way
8 that will have significantly less environmental impacts.

9 Again, I speak as a representative of the
10 landowner. SMLC intends, will be opening up that property
11 to the public for nature study, for hiking, for the public's
12 enjoyment. It is a unique natural feature for northern
13 Oakland County and southern Genessee County. We have
14 already had significant interest for educational purposes.
15 We know that it has been -- archeological digs that have
16 been on it, going back, and they found very significant
17 potential of indigenous peoples, old hunting and camping
18 sites.

19 There is a significant amount of impacts that
20 will be made and we just don't want this property disturbed
21 at this time. We want to maintain it in its most natural
22 state. I understand, and I would rather see the Vector
23 Pipeline go through, because it will go through existing
24 rights-of-way. It will go through areas that are already
25 disturbed. It is very, very important that we don't disturb

1 any more land. Thank you.

2 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

3 (Applause)

4 MS. MARDINEY: Thank you. Next speaker is John
5 Heidelberg.

6 MR. HEIDELBERG: Hello, I'm John Heidelberg, H-E-
7 I-D-E-L-B-E-R-G. I have been a union laborer for 13 years
8 out of Local 1191 Detroit. I am a property owner. I am
9 also a farmer.

10 I have a hay field on an existing pipeline, on
11 the area proposed. The hay field, working the hayfield,
12 after the work has been done, the field has been put back
13 together better than it was before. I am able to produce
14 more hay. It has been wonderful having the opportunity of
15 working with pipeline companies that come through the back
16 yard and through my property; and work with them with any
17 problems, any drainage problems to kind of better my
18 hayfield and my property, and to fix any problems that there
19 might be with the topography of the land.

20 As a union laborer, being a union laborer has
21 meant a great deal to me. It has made a great person out of
22 me. It has given me health care, it has given me home
23 ownership, it has given me education and training. I have
24 been able to work with wonderful people and great people
25 that I probably never would have had an opportunity to work

1 for as a union laborer. As a property owner I look forward
2 to working with Energy Transfer Partners on this project
3 both as someone that does pipeline work and someone that is
4 a property owner. Thank you.

5 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

6 (Applause)

7 MS. MARDINEY: Thank you. The next speaker is
8 Kelly Brinker. Kelly Brinker?

9 (No response.)

10 We will move on to Carol Bilot. Carol?

11 (No response.)

12 Carole Chi?

13 MS. CHI: Good evening. Thank you for allowing
14 us to speak on this issue. My name is Carole Chi, that is
15 C-A-R-O-L-E C-H-I. I am a retired public school science
16 teacher and art teacher, and I am a homeowner in Southern
17 McComb County. I just wrote some comments as people were
18 speaking, different people; and it is not true that solar
19 will not be up and running until 2040, one gentleman said
20 that. Not true at all. Look at Germany, look at China.
21 Several other countries. Look at the southern United
22 States. Lots of solar. In fact, the Florida governor is so
23 upset about solar power that he is trying to regulate it,
24 trying to outlaw it, trying to find people that use solar
25 power, which is ridiculous. If FERC is doing anything you

1 should be trying to get him to stop doing that, or have Eric
2 Holder have him stop doing that. It is ridiculous. Have
3 the congresswoman have him stop doing that. Florida should
4 not fine or outlaw it and neither should any other state.

5 No one should outlaw solar energy. We have
6 enough solar and wind energy. There is enough solar power
7 and wind power in the whole world to run the entire world
8 without fossil fuels. Remember, natural gas is a fossil
9 fuel. It's not clean. It is methane. It's not clean at
10 all. In fact methane is going to speed up by eight times,
11 eight times, speed up climate change. Now if you want to
12 live with poison above you and all around you I don't think
13 you are going to be able to breathe in that kind of world.
14 It is a very limited resource just like the oil.

15 It is amazing that the world has practically used
16 up fossil fuels that were available to us in 100 years. It
17 has only been 100 years. So wasteful, so wasteful in so
18 many ways. Natural gas is not a bridge to solar as some
19 people have said. It is not a bridge at all. We could go
20 right to solar, right now; right to wind, right now.

21 As far as construction jobs, now I am union. I
22 am a retired teacher. I was in the MBA. I was also in the
23 AFT when I worked for Detroit for six years. Worked out in
24 Clinton Township for another 17 years and I believe in jobs,
25 absolutely. But they are temporary. Not part-time, we

1 didn't say part-time, they are temporary jobs and what about
2 all the construction jobs that could be done repairing the
3 bridges, the roads, all kinds of things like that?

4 The question about the pipeline, it is not about
5 whether the pipeline is going to fail but when, because
6 eventually all pipelines fail and many of them, I think it
7 is like 10 percent, fail in the first year. No matter what
8 they say. 'Oh yes, we are going to watch it.' They are
9 going to have someone standing there watching it, every few
10 feet, all day long, 24/7, 365 days a year? I doubt it very
11 much.

12 We have to remember here in Michigan 20 percent,
13 and you may not know this. If you are not from Michigan and
14 you have never gone up to the Great Lakes, have you ever
15 gone up to Lake Superior or over to Lake Michigan, or over
16 to Lake Huron, or Lake Erie or Lake Ontario, you might not
17 realize what we mean when we say Michigan is the Great Lakes
18 State. You might not realize the quality of water that is
19 there, and it is all well and good to say it is just natural
20 gas, we are going to pipe it here, pipe it there, but that
21 is through fracking in the state of Michigan.

22 And we hold 20 percent of the world's fresh
23 surface water, and it is clean because of the wetlands that
24 we are so quickly destroying all over Michigan, because they
25 are too small or they are not right next to a Great Lakes,

1 they are not right next to a body of water. That is such a
2 mistake and is so short-sighted. Water is such a precious
3 resource. It is more precious than energy, it truly is,
4 because we have solar, we have wind, we should take
5 advantage of that.

6 It is free in a sense, until you get it coming
7 into your house and whatever. So wetlands are crucial, that
8 is why we have clean water in the Great Lakes and all around
9 us. If natural gas and the extraction of it were so safe,
10 if natural gas was so safe and the extraction was so safe,
11 then why are we not all made aware of what they are pumping
12 into the grounds? Why is it so secretive? Former Vice
13 President Dick Chaney has disallowed it by law, "Oh no, we
14 can't disclose what we're pumping it into the ground, into
15 Michigan's ground because we have such a huge area of shale,
16 we can't disclose that". Why not? If it is so safe, I
17 don't understand that.

18 Even geologists, and I studied geology, even
19 geologists don't realize you can't see everywhere that the
20 Great Lakes are connected to the shale pockets and when they
21 fracture that, when they break up all that rock to release
22 the natural gas. How it is connected to the Great Lakes?
23 Because it probably is.

24 Right now, the Great Lakes are lower than they
25 have been in a while. Well, we've the Nestle Corporation up

1 -- I will show you. They are up here in Michigan. They are
2 up here pumping water out for free. They don't pay a dime
3 to Michigan. I bet they pay lots of dimes, lots of dollars,
4 making millions of dollars to different people, to the
5 Democratic and the Republican Parties, especially the
6 Republican Party, because John Engel is the one who let them
7 do this. So now they are pumping water like crazy to sell,
8 bottled water, and they are not paying for it and the Great
9 Lakes are going down because it is probably connected to the
10 well. If indeed their wells don't go in a diagonal to the
11 Great Lakes, to Lake Huron, to Lake Michigan, because that
12 is where they are at, right there.

13 Governor Snyder said -- well, if the fracking, if
14 it pollutes the waters of Michigan, 'let them drink bottled
15 water.' What are we supposed to do? Bathe with it also?
16 Pour a bottle of water on our heads, wash our cars, wash our
17 families, launder our clothes with bottled water? Is that
18 what we are supposed to do when all the water in Michigan
19 and around has been destroyed? It is so short-sighted it is
20 unbelievable, that you would even consider this, that people
21 are even considering fracking under the whole lower
22 peninsula because that is where most of the shale is, but we
23 are surrounded by Great Lakes.

24 Twenty percent let me repeat, of the world's
25 fresh surface water. And if you don't think water is

1 precious then just ask the people in the Maldiv Islands.
2 They have gone dry now. They are dying for water and they
3 are in other countries, too. Look at any arid country,
4 Curacao, the Middle East, all kinds of places. They are
5 fighting, they are killing each other over water. We don't
6 realize what great resources we have here.

7 We're just looking for shale, because you keep
8 getting pushed by the corporations, the wealthiest, the one
9 percent. Oh yeah, 'W are an energy company. We want to
10 make money off of that. Who cares about Michigan? We don't
11 live there anyway.' We've never been there to appreciate
12 what we have here already.

13 There is a gigantic methane cloud right now over
14 Southwestern United States. Are we going to have that here?
15 Just last night I saw on Twitter, there is a methane plume
16 coming up out of the ocean, off the coast of Washington, the
17 State of Washington, and that is due to climate change.
18 When the air warms, the water warms, the methane comes up
19 from underground just on its own. More pollution, so I am
20 definitely against this. Thank you.

21 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

22 (Applause)

23 MS. MARDINEY: Thank you. Our next speaker is
24 Nancy Beaufort.

25 MS. BEAUFORT: My name is Nancy Beaufort and I

1 live north of the Detroit water line. I don't know if you
2 are aware of it, but that goes through a muck area, and just
3 a few years back they had a problem with that line and they
4 tried to fix it and they had a hard time because of unstable
5 soils. So when you are saying you are going through muck,
6 and if you have a problem it can be very hard to fix.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. We do not have anyone
9 else signed up to speak. Would anyone else like the
10 opportunity who has not had an opportunity to speak on the
11 record?

12 Please come up and state your name for the
13 record.

14 MR. REEVE: My name is Eric Reeve. R-E-E-V-E. I
15 am a retired federal environmental scientist and industrial
16 hygienist. I volunteered on a local hazmat team for St.
17 Clair County. I am also a chairman of our planning
18 commission for a local township. I was not planning on
19 speaking tonight but I have some concerns or thoughts here
20 that I need to bring to the table.

21 Once person mentioned tonight that Vector is
22 running a pipeline through the county, which is a true
23 statement. It's kind of replacing but they're not
24 necessarily abandoning completely the previous line there.
25 They are going to use it for surge if needed for capacity

1 purposes, but they are planning to convert to the new line.

2 Currently, at this time -- I may misquote it, but
3 -- there are at least seven pipelines of different
4 commodities going through St. Clair County in different
5 directions. The reason I know that is I am an emergency
6 responder. Different diameters. Different commodities. My
7 thought is that I encourage for those purposes not only from
8 the standpoint of protecting the land, which I think needs
9 to be looked at seriously, but I think we need to
10 consolidate all of our pipelines and infrastructure as much
11 as possible so that they can be easily managed and policed.
12 We have them scattered all over the neighborhoods, running
13 through different properties and doing different things,
14 that is awfully hard to keep up with.

15 With the amount of people from the different
16 pipeline companies that routinely police these right-of-ways
17 as required by law, if we have another competitor's pipeline
18 and something is going on, somebody as part of that policing
19 operation should catch it because they do have readily
20 radical signs that show up when there is a malfunction,
21 either through monitoring and/or discoloration or foliage
22 loss or something like that, when a pipeline deteriorates.
23 So I encourage that those routes be looked at, reassessed
24 and put through an existing right-of-ways wherever
25 possible. Thank you.

1 (Applause)

2 MS. HARRIS: Would anyone else that has not had
3 the opportunity like to speak? If you would, please say
4 your name for the record.

5 MR. KREUSAL: Gary Kreusal, K-R-E-U-S-A-L. Thank
6 you for giving me the opportunity. I also did not think
7 that I would speak tonight but I do think I have some
8 information that you folks really need to hear.

9 A little history of myself: I worked for
10 Consumer's Energy as a union employee for 37 years. I did a
11 lot of different types of jobs, storage, transmission lines,
12 measurement. A lot of rules and regulations that we would
13 be required to study, and do and tests to pass in order to
14 keep our jobs. On the other hand, I am a property owner.

15 Recently, why I am here tonight is actually for
16 my mother-in-law. This pipeline is proposed to go across
17 her property. At first, she was not treated very courteous
18 at all. It always seems to come up that 'If you don't agree
19 with what we have to say, we have the power of eminent
20 domain,' which is a personal problem with myself because the
21 Vector line of which you speak tonight, they are trying to
22 go across my place, again. They went across several years
23 ago for the Mildford 36-inch diameter pipe loop.

24 My property had two lines on it, they were
25 Michicana lines, which is now DTE before I bought it, 1965

1 and 1968. They had no rights to go across my property.
2 They could remove the line, they could improve the line,
3 they could maintain the line. I had very good lawyers that
4 represented me. They told me to document everything. I
5 have probably 200-300 hours of video. My property is on the
6 Bell River. They said they would not be on the property.
7 They were going to directional bore it. they did. It
8 failed.

9 Drilling mud boiled in the river. The river
10 itself bottom goes over ten foot high, dammed it off. I
11 took my family and I moved out. They did it twice. I had
12 lots and lots of meetings with them. Like I said, I have a
13 little background. I am no engineer, just a union worker.
14 I like the union. I think the guys did good jobs but the
15 bottom line is: You know what runs America, it is not
16 energy, it is dollars. That is what runs America. That is
17 what runs the world. Who's got the money, that's what runs
18 this place.

19 (Applause)

20 Michicon has been abused and still is being
21 abused. All these companies are in competition with each
22 other to make the most money for their shareholders, for
23 their CEOs or whoever is going to make all the money. I
24 would hate to be in your position to make the decisions that
25 you have to make because our economy needs this. We need

1 natural gas. Whether it is only for 5 years or 10 years or
2 whatever, we need to be independent on foreign countries.

3 But on the same token, I am raising a family and
4 now grandkids on my place. I know this isn't the Vector
5 line, you are saying run existing right-of-ways. I am on an
6 existing right-of-way. We had a heck of a winter last
7 winter. Unheard of for cold, unheard of for snow. As I
8 said, I am on the Bell River. I had extensive settling on
9 the pipeline.

10 I called Michicon who runs the line for Vector,
11 could not get a response. Finally, a guy shows up. I think
12 it's them, no they want to run another line. It is a guy
13 with a map, they know all the answers. I tell him my
14 problems. 'Yes, we will sent somebody.' Next person,
15 surveyors for the line. I said "Hey, you are not coming on
16 the place until you fix the last problems."

17 Again, again, I finally get a representative from
18 Michicon. If you put enough heat on them, you can. They
19 all agree, "Hey you got quite a bit of settlement here.
20 Hey, this ground is moving. Hey there is something wrong."
21 I said "Yeah, let's put in a little well and lets mark the
22 elevation of the line." The two existing lines are 50 and
23 60 years old. They put an immense amount of energy on those
24 lines.

25 I have yet to get an answer from Michicon. They

1 have not returned my call. They have not comp..I have run
2 the surveyors off twice, okay, and the reason why you get no
3 cooperation, eminent domain. They know they can and will
4 take your property for what they call a reasonable, fair
5 offer, which is not true. The first line that went across
6 my property before it was mine, the guy got a couple hundred
7 bucks. You know, I can't do nothing with that and it is
8 going to go forever. If I get 5 thousand dollars and that
9 is what I got and I had to sign the check due to my
10 attorneys from the last one. They have got rights to that
11 forever.

12 Do you know what that works out to be? A farmer
13 rents acreage by the year, he pays every year. I asked these
14 people, I said 'Give me a penny for every MCF that goes
15 through here and we will call it good.' "Oh, you're
16 joking." I said "Better yet, I will offer you the same
17 thing you are offering me. You buy the property, you pay
18 the taxes, you give me the lease forever and all of my
19 repairs forever that I can do what I want with it." 'Huh.
20 No, that doesn't work for the average guy.'

21 It is money. I understand that these people want
22 their union jobs, they want to do a good job. They are
23 going to hire local. They are going to keep all this going.
24 You have a decision to make, whether or not it is good for
25 the environment. It was my property that they found the

1 clams that the people talked about on the Bell River, that
2 was my property. The environmentalist found that. I asked
3 them not to allow them to put gas through that pipeline
4 until my damages were settled. Not settled today yet.

5 Now that sounds terrible, because I worked in the
6 industry for 37 years. I was the one that patrolled these
7 lines just a few miles west of where we stand today. They
8 were putting in tile, maybe they didn't call this dig, maybe
9 it got missed, whatever. Blew that 20-inch line up. okay,
10 yeah guys got hurt. Sure, I don't know if the guy died or
11 not but he was in the hospital for a long time. They
12 repaired the line, OK, they put it back in service and blew
13 the line up 20 miles down the road, putting it back in
14 service. Accidents happen.

15 One gentleman said, 99.9995 percent safest way.
16 Okay, we learn from our mistakes. I can't help but feel,
17 from seeing all the different sides, whether it be the
18 lawyers, whether it be the environmentalists, whether you
19 want solar, wind, whatever it is. Our climate is changing,
20 did it do this 100 years ago? Yeah, maybe so. I don't know
21 all the answers but I do know one thing. As a property
22 owner I have not been treated fairly. The law stands behind
23 the people with the money. Thank you very much for
24 listening to me.

25 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. Thank you.

1 (Applause)

2 MS. HARRIS: Please come down and say your name
3 for the record.

4 MR. DONAHUE: My name is Richard Donahue. I am
5 from Lapeer County and I am a landowner. Again, everybody
6 has been very eloquent and precise here tonight but I do
7 want to tell you that this is the secnd meeting I have
8 attended. I was at the Flint meeting last night and for the
9 people who are sitting here that don't want this pipeline,
10 what we need to do, what E.T. Rover has done and what FERC
11 does, they are very organized. They have quoted figures and
12 quoted statistics and made promises that nobody can verify
13 or follow up later on.

14 So before you leave tonight, if you are really
15 opposed to this pipeline, stop by, give me your phone number
16 and let's get something organized so that we can
17 counterbalance what we have heard here tonight. Whether
18 it's the economics professor from three years ago or
19 wherever or the guy from Ohio that you know, he is an
20 expert. So if you want to change this, you got to do more
21 than just come to these meetings.

22 (Applause)

23 MS. HARRIS: Please say your name for the record.

24 MR. LEWIS: My name is Lloyd Lewis, L-L-O-Y-D and
25 I represent the Operating Engineers and I am supporting this

1 line for all the jobs it will bring in to this area. They
2 are temporary, but our members use temporary jobs day in,
3 day out. They make their livelihood and living doing
4 temporary jobs. Thank you.

5 MS. HARRIS: I will quickly mention the FERC
6 website, it is www.FERC.gov. Within our website, there is a
7 link called elibrary where you can get all the information
8 on the project on Docket PF14-14. You can also eSubscribe.
9 There is also a link in FERC's website where you can sign up
10 to get an email every time something is filed in the docket.

11 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
12 Commission I would like to thank you for coming tonight.
13 This meeting is adjourned.

14 (Whereupon, at 8:30 p.m., the evening scoping
15 meeting in Richmond, Michigan, concluded.)

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